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Scandinavian Centre News

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Donna Cameron Scandinavian Queen

Janna Geitel, retiring Queen, crowning Scandinavian Centre Queen 1973-74, Donna Cameron.

Beauty and Brains Make Icelandic Representative Winner

The Annual **Scandinavian Centre Queen Contest** was held at the **Scandinavian Centre** on Sun., June 10. The winner of the four contestants was the representative of the Icelandic Society of Edmonton, Miss **Donna Cameron.**

The program opened with a speech from the president, Mr. **Soren Sorensen**. He thanked the retiring Queen, Miss **Janna Geitel**, for representing the Scandinavian Association for the past year as their Queen. He presented her with an envelope containing a flight ticket to her homeland. **Janna** responded with a very enlightening speech and wished the contestants good luck and expressed her thanks for being chosen queen for a year. The contestants were introduced to the audience. They were:
Miss **Peggy Johnson**—Sweden,
Miss **Doris Liimatainen**—Finland,
Miss **Lisa Fisker**—Denmark and
Miss **Donna Cameron**—Iceland.
Each of the contestants was dressed in the costume of their representative country.

They were judged on a point system—for appearance, poise, talent, knowledge and speech. These were broken down into different catagories. It was a very difficult task for the judges to arrive at a decision—after private interviews with each of the contestants. They retired to the board room to count points and to decide the first and second choice. The judges brought two envelopes to the chairman. They were both sealed. The judges were then introduced and presented with an engraved plaque and thanked.

The judges were: Mrs. **M. Cowin**, Mrs. **O. Plouffe**, and Mr. **R. Koilpillai**. They were not Scandinavian and did not know the girls. These people are very knowledgeable and experienced in the field of education and co-ordination with the public in general.

The judges each addressed the audience with a short speech and expressed their pleasure in participating in the contest and meeting the girls as well as the members of the Scandinavian Centre.

The President, Mr. **Soren Sorensen**, was then invited to open the letter marked **first runner up**, and announced Miss **Lisa Fisker** as the second choice. Mr. **Claus Jacobsen**, on behalf of the Danish people, presented her with her trophy and congratulated her. The President then opened the letter marked **first choice** and announced **Donna Cameron** as **Miss Scandinavian Centre Queen**. In the absence of the president of the Icelandic Society, Mr. **Sorensen** presented **Donna** with the Queen's trophy. Miss **Doris Liimatainen** was pronounced **Miss Scandinavian Centre Princess** and was presented with her trophy and thanked by Mrs. **Anne Suhuri**. Miss **Peggy Johnson** was pronounced **Miss Scandinavian Centre Princess** and was presented her trophy by Mrs. **Joan Peterson**.

The large Scandinavian Centre trophy was presented to the new Queen by Mr. **John Rama**. He gave a very encouraging message to **Donna** as well as to the others in the contest.

Retiring Queen **Janna Geitel** then passed her crown and banner on to **Donna Cameron** and congratulated her.

American and Canadian Scandinavians Hold Meeting

Representatives of all five of the Scandinavian ethnic communities in the United States and Canada—Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish—held a joint meeting in Minneapolis, May 2 and 3 and concluded that the Scandinavian element in America is undergoing change but continues to be strong. They agreed that with the passage of generations since the great era of immigration in the last century, sentimental attachment to "the old country" is being replaced by a more realistic interest in Scandinavian culture. This is found primarily among young Americans who are seeking identity with something outside the environment in which they live or who feel sympathetic toward the social and cultural developments in modern Scandinavia.

The meeting took the form of a two-day Seminar on the Scandinavian Presence in America, called SCANPRESENCE for short, sponsored by the Centre for Northwest European Studies at the University of Minnesota and Scandinavian Airlines System (SAS). Participants included most of the major American and Scandinavian scholars concerned with the Scandinavians in America and most of the leaders of major American cultural, fraternal and religious organizations founded by Scandinavians. Representatives of the home governments of all five national groups were also among the participants.

It was the first time that a conference on so wide a scale has been held by the Scandinavians in America since mass immigration from the northern countries began about 150 years ago. The group was convened to assess the effects of the end of that immigration and the dwindling number of first and second-generation Scandinavian-Americans.

The Seminar agreed that a closer relationship between the ethnic organizations and academics as well as greater co-operation among national groups is necessary to the survival of a significant Scandinavian presence in North America. It also noted that the American-Scandinavian community must be ready to embrace the growing numbers of Americans without Scandinavian background who have developed an interest in Scandinavia.

Welcome a Visitor

Premier **Peter Lougheed** and Tourism Minister **Bob Dowling** urge all Albertans to continue the **WELCOME A VISITOR WEEK**—June 25 - July 1—a program aimed at impressing on Albertans the importance of being friendly to visitors.

In making the announcement, both the Premier and Mr. **Dowling** said all Albertans could play a role in making visitors feel welcome in the province.

"The travel industry brought $363 million to the Province last year," said Mr. **Dowling**, "and it benefits all Albertans. But we want the **Welcome A Visitor Week** program to extend beyond the financial considerations. We want visitors to feel welcome and wanted in our province."

"With more than 2.6 million visitors expected in the province this year," said the Premier, "Albertans should be prepared to give them a taste of **'real western hospitality'**." He said the **Welcome a Visitor Week** was only a seven-day warm-up for how visitors should be treated 52 weeks of the year.

Mr. **Dowling** pointed out that

(Continued on Page 2)

SPLINTERS from the BOARD

By Anne Saburi

SCANDAPADES '74

Discussions and planning are continuing regarding **Scandapades '74**. If you have ideas or helpful hints, please phone **Sig** or **Selma Sorenson** at **466-1839**. I am sure they will want to hear from you. Also if you have talent or just a wish to help behind the scenes, do call them.

SCANDINAVIAN HOUR PROGRAM

Have you been listening to the weekly Scandinavian Hour over CFCW? If you have I am sure you want to join me in thanking **Les Greenham** for the splendid job he is doing with the radio report. Please call him at **455-0082** if you have something to be announced.

SUNDAY DINNERS—COFFEE PARTIES

Would you like to come and have regular Sunday dinners at the **Scandinavian Centre**? How about Sunday afternoon coffee parties? Please put your opinions in writing and send them to the **Scandinavian Centre Board**. We would be delighted to hear from you all.

HAVE YOU HEARD THIS ONE?

"Have you heard about the new doctor doll?
You wind it up and it operates on batteries."

HURRY

by **Wilma Boyle Bunker**

Too many of us are hurrying our days away. Involved in many activities, we dash breathlessly from one appointment to another, from one task to the next, constantly trying to beat a deadline. Our only aim, it seems, is to get the present commitment out of the way so that we can begin another. We find ourselves saying, "If I can just get through this week," but next week comes and we are still going at top speed.

Life is too precious to shorten it with hurry. To overload our days with more than we can handle is a poor substitute for contentment. To be smothered with unfinished work is frustrating and exhausting.

And the strange part about all this is that we don't have to do it. We are masters of at least some of our own time; we fashion many of the procedures of our own way of living. We can either burn up the hours with rush and flurried haste, or be wise enough to enjoy days that are busy and challenging, yet serene, calm and far more satisfying.

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CANADA DAY

Canada Day is Canada's 106th birthday this year. Canada was officially born in 1867 with the signing of the British North America (BNA) Act and July 1st has been celebrated as Dominion Day, and then more recently, **Canada Day**.

A parade, bands, a 21-gun salute and military tattoo was held in Edmonton to celebrate the occasion on Sun., July 1. It started in front of City Hall at 10 a.m. where 10 full bands assembled for a brief concert prior to the ceremonies featuring Mayor **Ivor Dent**, Lt.-Gov. **Grant MacEwan** and local MPs.

At 11:15 the party filed off in a parade to the Legislative grounds including Canadian Forces floats and more bands. The 21-gun salute at 12 noon was accompanied by a flypast of jets from Canadian Forces Base, Edmonton.

For the rest of the afternoon until around 4 o'clock there was a concert and display by different groups. There was Sing Out Edmonton, the Edmonton Senior Citizens' Orchestra and Choir, ethnic performers from the Edmonton Folk Arts Council and other groups who entertained at the Legislative grounds.

At 7:30 p.m. a military tattoo was staged involving marching bands, Highland dancers and ethnic performing groups.

The day's events were sponsored mainly by the Canadian Progress Club as an organization project, with participation from the city, province and other local organizations.

JUDGE YE NOT

I dreamed that death came the other night
And heaven's gate swung wide.
With kindly grace an angel
Ushered me inside.

And there to my astonishment
Stood folks I'd known on earth,
Some I'd judged and labeled
As "unfit" or of "little worth".

Indignant words rose to my lips
But never were set free,
For on every face showed stunned surprise—
No one expected me!

—Author Unknown

(Continued from Page 1)

Welcome Visitor

the province this year expects the number of visitors in the province to increase by at least 10% over last year's record 2.6 million.

"**The Welcome a Visitor Week** program is aimed not only at people in the service industry, such as gas station attendants, waitresses and store clerks, but is also for the Albertans who might be asked directions by a visiting motorist," said Mr. **Dowling**. "A friendly word is often all it takes to show visitors that we welcome them to our province."

Syttende Mai Parade on Norway's Constitution Day, May 17, 1973. Parading down Jasper Avenue and holding the "NORWAY" banner is Irene Hovde and Magnar Bjorsvik. Holding the flags behind are {l.-r.} Peter Hansen, Astrid Hope and Ole Vold.

Scandapades '74

By Sigurd & Selma Sorenson
Joint Producers

It is less than 8 months until the curtain opens on **Scandapades '74** on February 9, 1974, at the beautiful Jubilee Auditorium in Edmonton.

Plans are already under way to make the **Twentieth Anniversary** the very best show ever staged.

One of the greatest objectives of the Scandinavian Centre is to assist and encourage local talent in the development of their artistic abilities. All talented people are invited to phone **466-1839**, and let us know what you can do. This may be your opportunity to perform on the finest stage in Western Canada.

At the Scandinavian Centre Board meeting on June 11, I suggested that the Centre sponsor coffee parties every Sunday afternoon. If they go ahead with this plan, your committee invites you to phone **466-1839**, if you would like to entertain at these coffee parties. This would give you, our talented people, an opportunity to try-out for **Scandapades '74** or future Scandapades productions.

Remember we want to produce a show featuring its best in Scandinavian Culture and Art. We want to share this culture with our fellow Canadians on February 9, 1974.

Again we invite you to phone **466-1839** with your ideas. Thank you.

Letter To The Editor

Dear Mrs. Clark:

Please find enclosed $5.00 for the publication of **The Scandinavian Centre News** in memory of my Beloved Niece, **Ella Searl** who passed away June 10th 1972.

Yours sincerely,
Lilian Blue

P.S. I was delighted to read that the Norwegian Flag was unfurled and hoisted by **Alvin Searl** on May 17th.

I read also that **Alvin** was in the hospital. I hope he is fully recovered by now. I would be pleased to know if he is out of the hospital.

L. B.

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There is no subscription fee. Each person who is a member of **The Scandinavian Centre** receives a copy. Scandinavian ethnic groups, societies, clubs or organizations may receive the paper by sending a list of names and addresses along with money at 6¢ a copy to cover postage.

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SOLGLYT SPOTLIGHT

By Evelyn Jensen

COMING EVENTS
Saturday July 21st.
KLONDIKE DANCE.

The Scandinavian Centre and Sons of Norway are jointly sponsoring the Klondike Dance which will take place in the Viking Room of the Scandinavian Centre, at 9 p.m. Admission will be $2.50 per person. Reservations may be made by phoning **Gladys Clark** at **455-5371** or **Ole Vold** at **476-5922**, or **The Scandinavian Centre** at **455-4355**. There will be refreshments and lunch will be served at a small extra cost. Come along, bring your friends and enjoy an evening of fun.

***

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Mr. and Mrs. **Dennis Bukvi** who were married on June 16.

***

Our congratulations also to **Laurel Hafso** and **Ralph Antonio**, whose wedding will take place Aug. 4.

***

Sons of Norway members, **Del Melsness** and **Darlene, Irene Hovde, Warren Clark, Greta Elgstrand, Anders Anderson Jr.**, and **Christina Anderson** took part in a program of entertainment on June 7 for the patients at the Glenrose Hospital.

***

A group of ladies held a miscellaneous shower at the Scandinavian Centre on May 28 in honour of **Beverly Travis**, whose wedding to **Eric Ball** took place June 16.

***

Sharon Sorenson is now studying at the University of Bergen.

***

Mrs. **Emma Broen** was married recently to Mr. **Harry Wilcox** of Camrose.

***

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery to Mrs. **Lydia Naverseth** who is recuperating after having been in University Hospital to have an operation for cataract.

***

Mrs. **Ragna Sivertson** has sold her apartment building and is busy moving. After she is settled in her new apartment she intends to do some travelling and visit relatives in various parts of the country.

***

Miss **Aase Haukeness** and her sister left from Saskatoon on June 16 for a five week holiday in Norway.

***

Other travellers are **Cliff** and **Edith Johnson** who are vacationing in London, Scotland, Norway, and Sweden.

***

Mrs. **Tora Anderson** has been visiting in Winnipeg with her son, **Njaal**.

***

At an election at the Misericordia Hospital recently, **Kalmar Amdam** was selected to be the representative of the Engineering Services Dept. on the Employee Management Committee which meets once a month to foster better relationships between management and employees.

***

Torske Klubben held their monthly dinner meeting June 5 when a new member, **Ken Storheim**, was initiated. Guest speaker for the occasion was The Honourable **Horst Schmid**, Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation. The next meeting will be held July 3.

***

NORSEMEN SKI TOURING TRAIL

Torske Klubben members are organizing a cross country ski trail to go from Edmonton to Devon. If anyone is interested in helping they are asked to contact Bro. **Kris Nyhus** at **487-1450**.

***

LANGUAGE CAMP

The Language, Cultural Arts and Handicrafts Summer Camp will be held from Aug. 4-12 at Silver Summit Alpine Village, which is located near Edson. Cost will be $20.00 per person. Would members who are interested in attending please send their $20.00 to Bro. **Gordon Berdahl**, 9311 - 83 St., as soon as possible. If anyone is interested in helping, please contact Bro. **Berdahl**. Phone **466-3252**.

***

Your correspondent for next month will be **Rose Svidal**. Phone—**488-6558**.

***

DATE TO REMEMBER
Scandinavian Days at BARRHEAD —Aug. 10 and 11.

SAS Starts China Route

Bilateral agreement providing for a commercial air route between mainland China and Scandinavia have been reached by the Governments of the Peoples Republic of China and Denmark, Norway and Sweden.

Under their terms, Scandinavian Airlines—SAS—has been granted rights to fly between Scandinavia and Peking and/or Shanghai, via Moscow and Irkutsk and onward to Tokyo or other points to be decided later.

CAAC, the Chinese Airline, receives rights for routings to Scandinavia and beyond via intermediate points still to be determined.

A formal treaty will be signed in the near future, but actual implementation of the agreements must be deferred until appropriate arrangements can be worked out with all governments concerned in the routings.

According to SAS advisers to the Scandinavian Delegations, the agreement will give SAS the shortest routing between Scandinavia and China, an advantage which may be reflected as far west as Montreal and New York.

Until the new route is established, SAS continues to provide fast connections to China via Hong Kong over the Trans-Asian route to Bangkok, a connection on Thai International.

HORST SCHMID TORSKE KLUBBEN SPEAKER

At the regular meeting of Torske Klubben on Tues., June 5, Pastor **Ken Storheim** was initiated into the organization with **Anders Anderson** as Boss.

The special guest and speaker for the luncheon was **Horst A. Schmid**, Conservative M.L.A. for Edmonton-Avonmore and Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation.

Horst A. Schmid has spent only

The Hon. Horst A. Schmid, Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation of the Alberta Government.

half his 38 years in Canada, but he has proved that a "born in Canada" stamp isn't necessary to good Canadian citizenship.

It was in 1952 that he exchanged his native Bavaria for Canada, arriving with all his worldly goods neatly packed in two suitcases, and expecting to communicate in French, a language which was familiar to him. In Munich, where he was born, he had attended a liberal arts school, majoring in French and Italian, and expected no language difficulties in his new home. The shock of discovering English the spoken language of the majority of Canadians sent him off to Yellowknife to prepare himself to cope with this new life.

He learned English quickly. In fact, his first lesson came on the rather rough flight from Edmonton to Yellowknife. The passenger in the seat behind him was airsick, and the stewardess, after making him comfortable, stopped at **Horst's** seat and spoke to him. Thinking she was inquiring whether he also felt ill, he used one of his two English words . . . "no" . . . and missed breakfast.

Despite his language difficulties, **Horst A. Schmid** displayed his usual cheerful capacity for work, toiling by day in the gold mines, studying English and Canadian grade twelve subjects by night, involving himself in community activities, and participating in the production of Yellowknife's Maytime Follies and an amateur theatre group. He spent four years in Yellowknife before coming to Edmonton to take accounting training and two years of correspondence courses from the University of Toronto in Business Psychology, Business Finance and Administration. He also operated his own accounting firm, and subsequently became one of the first Canadians to travel to Europe to sell Alberta rapeseed and honey. As a partner in an export firm, he travelled all over the world, negotiating contracts for the export of Canadian manufactured goods and studying the culture and trade economics of such countries as India, Japan, Formosa, the Philippines, Brazil and Europe.

Back home in Bavaria, **Horst** has been secretary of the Young Christian Worker's Movement of Upper Bavaria. He had been in charge of the first French-German exchange program held in the Bavarian mountains after the war, where young people from the two countries got together to discuss their feeling about the future of Europe and possible co-operation between countries. Many of the participants in this initial experimental group went on to put into practice the meat of their discussions . . . joining UNESCO, becoming mayors, aldermen, and in **Horst's** case, emigrating and becoming an M.L.A. and Cabinet Minister.

A member of the Students' Opera Club of Munich, he continued his interest in cultural and community activities, and in people, when he came to Canada. For ten years he brought listeners to CKUA-radio "Music from the German Speaking Countries of Europe", reminiscing with them about their homelands. He volunteered his services to several churches, teaching English to newcomers in regular classes, and he spent three terms as a director of the Edmonton Co-op. In an effort to preserve the native dances of Bavaria, he formed a class and taught them the traditional steps. His first little class has developed into a popular, well-established group under the direction of **Rudy Kirrmaier**.

Horst's civic and cultural activities include the Board of Directors of the Edmonton Opera Association, membership in the German Canadian Business and Professional Association, the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce, Edmonton Press Club and the Kenilworth Community League.

In the 1960's, **Horst A. Schmid** became interested in Politics, playing a behind-the-scenes role

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ICELANDIC NEWSLETTER

By Les Greenham

Hi, Folks, the time has rolled around again to inform you of the news and views from here and there. The major news item that is foremost in mind is how successful the Markerville Picnic turned out to be despite the slight setback due to the weather. The enthusiasm and excitement exhibited by the approximately 300 people in attendance, you might say, was contagious. This augurs well for future celebrations. Everybody you talked to was so enthusiastic about promoting bigger and better Islendingadagurinns in Markerville in the years to come. Also, everybody realized that it is going to take a couple of years to get this properly organized and running smoothly. Any suggestions and criticisms to help to promote this would certainly be appreciated. We would like to express special thanks to the Calgary Choir. They put on an excellent performance considering the short time since the choir was organized. The Saga Singers from Edmonton were also in attendance under the direction of **Jo Couves** and **Berky Letourneau**, in the absence of **Della Roland**. Six weeks ago we were all optimistic that **Della** would be present at Markerville, however, her recovery did not progress as was anticipated. But everybody was enquiring about her health and hoped she would be there next year. The races were curtailed somewhat due to the weather and unfortunately I do not have all the results of the winners of each competition but I do know that **Lucille Oddson** came in third in the Scramble Shoe Race and that **Ninna Campbell** came in last, as usual. So maybe, **Ninna**, you should start your spring training a little earlier for future athletic events.

The next highlight that comes to mind is the crowning of the Fjallkona at the Scandinavian Centre on May 27. This was a very delightful occasion and it was very heartwarming to see at least 75 people in attendance. As most of you know, our new Fjallkona is Mrs. **Eleanor Farrell** and she was so adorable in her costume. Everybody in attendance was proud to have her as our Fjallkona for the next year and her mother, Mrs. **Ila Hendrickson**, was probably the proudest. It was sure nice to see **Fusi Arnfinson** in attendance at this special occasion. **Fusi** and his wife, **Gladys**, were visiting here at the time, and **Fusi** felt that he couldn't miss this occasion. We had a nice chat with **Fusi** and he informed us that his brother, **Mike Arnfinson**, and **Olla Erickson** were married on May 22. The ceremony took place at Lundar, Man. All their friends in Edmonton wish them a very happily married life. The highlight of **Fusi** and **Gladys Arnfinson's** visit to Edmonton was the celebration of the 25th Wedding Aniversary of **Alfred** and **Doris Tabler. Alfred** is **Gladys Arnfinson's** brother. Incidently, on checking my notes, **Fusi** and **Gladys** are from Colwood, B.C. While they were in Edmonton, they spent most of their time with **Bill** and **Tody Halldorson**. After talking to **Bill** and **Tody** on the phone, they informed me that they really enjoyed their visit.

Another recent event which took place on June 10, was the crowning of the Scandinavian Centre Queen. The Icelandic Society is very proud and wish to offer congratulations to **Donna Cameron**, representing the Icelandic Society, for being selected as the Scandinavian Centre Queen, who will reign for the next year. This is the second time since the inception of this contest that the Icelandic representative has been chosen queen, the first being **Joan Olafson**. Unfortunately this event was very poorly attended and we hope that in the future that the Icelanders will be a little more dedicated to this special event.

The last meeting of the Icelandic Society Executive was in the form of a dinner meeting held at the Beverly Crest Hotel. Incidently the meal was delicious, thanks to the management and staff. There will be no further meetings until September unless an emergency arises, in which case everyone will be informed.

ACCORDING TO THE GRAPEVINE

Clara Jonsson and her sister, **Edith Deverill**, of Wetaskiwin, flew to Winnipeg recently to visit with their brother, **Ben**, and their sister-in-law, **Joyce**, who has been very ill. We are happy to report that before **Clara** and **Edith** returned there was a decided improvement in her condition. Visiting with **Clara** and **Steini Jonsson** in the past two weeks were **Clara's** sisters, Mr. and Mrs. **Raymond Larson** and their 2 daughters from Vogar, Man., and Mrs. **Dianne Slator** from Winnipeg. Speaking of **Clara**, we are happy to say that she has recently been accepted for a position in her field, as Social Worker with the Provincial Government. This has been her goal since completing her course. Congratulations, **Clara**!

An exciting news item this month is the engagement of **Shirley Thorsteinson** to **Solli Sigurdson**. This wonderful occasion is to take place on July 13, and believe me, **Shirley** and **Solli**, everybody wishes you all the happiness in the world.

Another wedding announcement which is of special significance to yours truly, is the forthcoming marriage of **Karen Hawes** and **Ken Jonah** which will take place on Sept. 1.

On June 4 the Saga Singers, after their regular practise, had a coffee party and farewell for **Lara Hale's** parents, **Gudmundur Gudjonson** and **Lara Einarsdottir**, who had been visiting here from Iceland. The Choir was so happy that the President of the Society, **Barney Thorlakson**, and his wife, **Jean**, took time off to attend this event.

Herb and **Phyllis Vigfusson** recently attended the wedding of **Eva** and **Eric Harder's** daughter of Abbotsford, B.C., at which time **Herb** had the honor of toasting the bride and being Master of Ceremonies. En route home they visited with his brother, **Norm**, and family in Cheney, Wash.

Congratulations to **David John Letourneau** of Spruce Grove, son of Mr. and Mrs. **R.J. Letourneau**, who graduated this spring from the College of Commerce and Business Administration at the U. of A.

There are times in your life when you are proud and happy to have contributed to the joy of our senior citizens. One of these occasions happened recently at McQueen Lodge when the Saga Singers went there to perform. Our thanks go out to **Mike Johnson**, who resides there, for inviting us and arranging the evening. The response from the audience was so heart warming and everyone expressed a desire for us to come again.

Thanks to **Clara Jonsson** we have two birthday congratulations to make this month, that of **Clara** and **Steini's** son, **Ben**, who celebrated his 17th birthday on June 19; and **Judy Corrigal** who celebrated her birthday on June 23. P.S. We happen to know that **Gus Roland** is celebrating a birthday in July. Congratulations, **Gus**! Incidently **Gus**, are you really 80 years old? You sure don't look it!

We regret the fact that we are unable to report that **Della Roland** has been released from hospital and living in the happy confines of her home. However, it is nice to know that there are some thoughtful people in this world, such as **Al** and **Martha Arnason**, who recently had a telephone installed in **Della's** room for her convenience. You can be sure that **Della** really appreciates this.

Our President, **Barney Thorlakson**, wishes to express his disappointment in the response for donations to the Westmann Island Disaster Fund. As of this date there are no donations to report. Anyone who has thought they would like to contribute, no matter how small, please phone **Barney** at 452-8550 or at home 487-1506.

Daycare institutions in Oslo have room for 22% of the city's children under school age. In 1973, some 104 daycare institutions will be administered by the Municipal Child Welfare Bureau with a capacity of 4,760 children under 7. In addition, there are 93 private institutions with facilities for 2,880 children and centres at hospitals for 600 children. About 500 children are looked after during the day in private homes.

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SUMMER SALADS

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SOME SALAD SUGGESTIONS

Use fresh, crisp ingredients.

Chill everything including the serving plates and bowl.

Cut fruit into large chunks—be generous when you slice salad ingredients.

Drain the fruits and vegetables well. (Their juices dilute the finished flavor.)

In every salad, blend a rainbow of colors—as a starter how about ripe purple plums, golden pineapple rings, red raspberries, sunny apricots, creamy bananas, snowy coconut flakes and clear green water cress?

Never smother the salad with dressing—better too little, and pass more, than to drown the ingredients and lose the subtle blending of flavors.

Don't let the salad ingredients look handled. Keep trimmings and garnishes simple.

Don't disguise your salads to look like anything but food.

Nestle salad bowls in finely cracked ice.

Choose just the right dressing to set off your salad.

Select the perfect accompaniment—crunchy crackers, nutty breads, piping hot soups, cheese chunks, crisp potato chips, crusty rolls.

Be dramatic in the selection and arrangement of salad ingredients.

Use a variety of greens to set off your salad picture. Don't limit yourself to head lettuce.

LAPSKAUS

Lapskaus may be first cooked in a skillet, and then baked in a casserole or it can be prepared completely in a skillet.

1 1/2 pounds round steak
4 tablespoons butter
1 small onion
Salt and pepper to taste
1/2 teaspoon sugar and juice of 1/2 lemon OR
1 tablespoon red wine in 1/2 glass of water
4 cups diced raw potatoes

Cube round steak and roll in flour; brown in butter. Add onions and brown slightly. Season with salt and pepper. Stir in the juice of lemon with sugar or wine and allow to simmer for a few minutes. Cover with hot water, put a lid on the skillet and simmer gently until meat is tender. Add diced potatoes cover and cook over low heat 15 minutes or until potatoes are done. Serve in heated casserole. This will serve 8 at the smorgasbord, 3 as a single entree.

Margaret Sanders
Sacramento, Calif.

KUMLE RECIPE

Cook a good smoked picnic ham in water almost to cover until very tender—about 2 to 4 hours, depending on size of ham. Remove ham from broth. Cool broth and remove and discard accumulated fat.

Peel and grate 6 to 8 large potatoes. Add 2 tsp. salt and 1/2 tsp. pepper. Add enough flour to make dough firm enough to form a dumpling the size of a large egg. If desired, form dumpling around a small chunk of ham. Drop into boiling broth which has been salted to taste. Cover and simmer for 45 mins. Heat ham in skillet or oven. Remove kumle from broth with slotted spoon and serve with the hot ham. Pass fresh hot bacon fat or melted butter to spoon over kumle.

Leftover kumle is good fried like potatoes in bacon fat. May be cup up, then frozen until ready to use.

Mrs. R. M. Bergsagel
Seattle, Wash.

BANANA SQUARES

These are delicious and uncooked.

1/2 cup butter
1/2 cup icing sugar
1 egg yolk
1/2 cup mashed bananas
1/2 cup drained cherries (cut up)
1/2 cup short, sweet coconut
1 tsp. vanilla

Cream butter and icing sugar. Add beaten egg yolk. Mix in the remaining ingredients.

Line an 8" x 8" pan with wax paper or tin foil, then with whole graham wafers. Spread the banana mixture on the wafers. Add another layer of whole graham wafers. Ice with butter icing.

SCANDINAVIAN RECIPE FOR JULY

ICELANDIC BROWN BREAD
by Mickey Shaw

3/4 cup warm water
2 tsp. sugar
1 pkg. yeast

Let stand 10-15 minutes.

In a large bowl put:

4 cups hot water
3/4 cup cooking molasses
3/4 cup brown sugar
1/4 cup melted shortening

Add yeast to above ingredients which should be lukewarm. Stir in:

5 cups graham flour
5 cups flour
2 tsp. salt

Pour mixture on a floured board and work in additional flour until dough is easy to handle. Knead well. Place in greased bowl, cover with a cloth. Let rise until double in bulk. Punch down. Let rise again, punch down and shape into loaves. Let rise once more. Bake 350° for 1 hour.

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SCANDINAVIAN AIRLINES

VASA LODGE SKANDIA

By Pat Hyde

At the Vasa Clubhouse beside Pigeon Lake, many Lodge members gathered for the regular meeting of June 2. A special "hello" goes out this month to **John Jarrot** in St. Joseph's Hospital, and to **Hanna Sand** and **Harriet Nylen**, who were reported sick. We hope that this issue of the news finds you feeling much better.

Vasa Lodge Skandia wishes to welcome Mr. **Leo Cote** as a new member of the Lodge. **Leo** was initiated at the June 2 meeting.

John Cumberbatch gave members a familiarization talk of the geographical features of Sweden, taken from a book with the impressive title, **All There Is To Know About Sweden. John** has worked very hard recently to keep us informed of our Swedish heritage. The Scandinavian films he arranged for at St. Joseph's Hospital on May 22 and at the Scandinavian Centre on May 23 were thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Following the June 2 meeting members remained in the Clubhouse for a social evening of dancing. All who participated had a wonderful time.

Barbequed chicken and all the trimmings were the order of the day on Sun., June 3, when **Irene** and **Ernie Hokanson** cooked and served the **Texas Barbeque**. The food was really delicious, thanks to the fine planning of the **Hokansons**.

The Vasa Ladies held a very successful pie social at the clubhouse at Pigeon Lake on May 20. The Ladies Auxiliary wish to thank all those who so generously donated pies, and attended the function. The lunch cloth was won by Mr. **Rod Maclain** of #5, 10335 - 114 St., Edmonton.

The Curling Club's Trophy Night was held at Pigeon Lake on May 19. **Hansine Pierre** received a beautiful serving tray from the Vasa curlers, and she wishes to express her sincere thanks for this thoughtful token of appreciation.

COMING EVENTS

July 7—at Pigeon Lake, **Clarence** and **Helen Berg** will host the "Klondike Daze" Dance and Pancake Supper. Dress up in your Klondike finery and come prepared to have a wonderful time!

***

Magnus and **Betty Pearson** have had visitors the past months—a sister, **Helen Riley**, from Kamloops, B.C., and the **Pearson's** daughter, **Marjory Carrell**, from Vancouver. Another sister, Mrs. **Nels Robby**, from Red Deer, has also been to Edmonton visiting with the **Pearsons**.

***

I know that all Vasa readers will welcome **Millie Weiss** to the Vasa Lodge Skandia column next month. **Millie** will be taking over the writing of the news for the Lodge, commencing with the August issue.

NORWAY BANS TOBACCO ADS

The Storting (Parliament) has approved a bill to restrict the marketing of tobacco. The bill makes it illegal to advertise any tobacco products and requires producers to place warnings on cigarette packs, etc. against the dangers of smoking. It also forbids the sale of tobacco to persons under 16.

The Minister of Social Affairs, Ms. **Bergfrid Fjose**, described the bill during the debate in the Storting as "the most effective action which any national assembly has taken against this modern epidemic".

"At least 1,200 persons die annually in Norway as a result of smoking," Ms. **Fjose** said.

All parties agreed that the advertisement of tobacco products should be prohibited, but there was disagreement over penalties for violating the law. The Storting left it to the Ministry of Social Affairs to work out the details of the new legislation. It has not yet been decided when the advertising ban will be made effective.

CRUISING NORWAY'S FJORDS

By Beatrice Kernohan

I remember in the February or March issue of the News that you invited stories of vacation travel that you could use in the paper. I enjoyed the account of your travels through Norway last year so much that I took my vacation in Scandinavia this year, Denmark and Norway. I didn't want to duplicate yours but I thought you might be able to use an article on the cruise out of Bergen, north to Kirkenes to supplement your story.

I enjoy all the articles you print on the Scandinavian countries and their history so I hope you will be able to use this.

Beatrice Kernohan
Box # 2518
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

***

At last I was realizing a long standing desire—a cruise through Norway's fjords and around the Nordcapp. It had taken 15 years but I was realizing this dream.

I took the cruise early in May (1973) before the ship would be filled with tourists so there was just a small group of us—a very compatible group. There were four very pleasant American ladies, an English couple, a Swiss couple, a retired gentleman from Minnesota, U.S.A., who had emigrated from Norway as a child, and myself.

We sailed from Bergen on a rainy Sunday night. I boarded the ship, "The Finnmarken", one of the thirteen ships on the V.D.S. line, at 9:00 p.m. After a quick tour around the decks, I sat and watched the lights of the city twinkle in the water. Promptly at 11:00 p.m., we weighed anchor and sailed and the bright lights of Bergen gradually faded in the distance.

Monday dawned bright and sunny but with a good coating of mist at the base of the mountains. We made an early stop at Maaløy and a few of us left the ship to explore but there was just a store and gas pumps set on the road well back from the dock. Then a few houses were scattered along the section of the road that you could see. So, back to the ship to sail along this beautiful coast line.

We reached Aalesund at 12:15. There was a two hour stop here which gave me time to wander around this thriving city. There were three harbours here, the one our ship came into, around a point of land was another harbour and beyond that over a small hill was a third. A good number of the buildings here were built of stone in various shades of grey but I noticed that for most of the trip the buildings were constructed of wood and painted in strong colours, mainly a rusty red, a terralean blue or a yellow gold. This was a concept that I think we, in the Canadian north, could emulate, the use of strong colour to counteract the long season of white snow.

During my wanderings along the far harbour I came to a city square on which they were having an open air flower market. There was a good selection of all the spring flowers making an appealingly colourful display before an incongruous backdrop of snow-capped mountains. Aalesund had several areas of shops but, unfortunately, in just two hours there wasn't time to do any shopping, too. I made up for it later.

Leaving Aalesund we sailed between the coast and the offshore islands, giving us a never ending panorama on both sides. The air was warm, the water was smooth and everyone was sitting out on deck enjoying the sunshine. It was fascinating to watch the complete backward change of season during the length of the cruise. We had left green grass and flowers at Bergen and as we sailed progressively further north, we first had bare mountains, then we got a few snow-capped ones here and there. Then more and more of the mountains were snow-capped until they all were. Then the same gradual process until we were into snow covered mountains by the fifth day of the cruise, at about 70° latitude. We were all keen observers of this changing scene.

(Continued on Page 6)

Scandinavian Centre Queen Contestants {l.-r.} Peggy Johnson–Sweden, Donna Cameron–Iceland, Janna Geitel–retiring Queen, Lisa Fisker–Denmark and Doris Liimatainen–Finland.

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NORDSTJARNAN NEWS

By Sherry Havanka

The June meeting and Annual Wiener Roast was held at the **Henry Sjogren** home on the 2nd. Plans for the golf tournament were discussed and details were left up to the committee. After the usual items of business were looked after the meeting was adjourned and everyone enjoyed hot dogs and refreshments.

Delegates attending the District 18 Convention held in Medicine Hat were **Olga Brown, Anne Holmlund** and **Mable Rapio**.

Many happy returns to our most senior lodge member, sister **Amy Olson**, who will be 88 years young July 5. Kinown as **Grama Olson** to her many friends, she is a charter member of Nordstjarnan Lodge. She was a faithful worker in the early years of the lodge. May you have many more years of health and happiness, **Grama Olson**.

Deepest sympathy is extended to **Barb Sjolin** and her family on the passing of her father, Mr. **E. Leitch**.

Next regular meeting to be held July 21 at **Olga Brown's** home.

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(Continued from Page 5)

Cruising Fjords

Late in the afternoon we docked at Molde where we disembarked to take a coach tour across the country. Our courier first took us around Molde to show us how beautiful it is and I fell in love with the town. It is growing very rapidly at the moment (population of 19,000) and there are a lot of new subdivisions that are neat, clean and friendly looking. Since the town is on the hillsides, everyone has a view from his home. We visited the new church built after the second world war. The original church had been bombed and almost destroyed but they have incorporated a piece that was left into the bell tower structure making a very interesting design. The interior of the church was impressive. The sweeping arches led your eye up to the beautiful ceiling. It was painted in a geometric pattern in blue over the main part of the church; red over the choir loft and organ and green over the altar. Behind the choir loft was a round, stained glass window depicting a star in a stylized design, and the sun shining through this window cast the beautiful colours on to the ship suspended over the main aisle. A sense of peace and quietness pervaded the church.

On the hill, below the church, was the town hall. This is a three story building built of natural stone in a grey-brown colour and trimmed in a dark brown. Lovely! In the square in front of it is a fountain with a statue of a woman holding an armful of roses as this is called the "Town of Roses". The roof of the city hall is flat and on the level with the church so it is completed with walks, benches, flower beds bright with tulips, daffodils and evergreens and a fountain in which some little girls were happily playing. A lovely place to sit and rest.

As we left Molde, our courier also pointed out their new airfield, of which they are particularly proud.

The drive across country was lovely. We ran into a section here that still had a snow covering that we were told "had just happened two weeks ago as they had had very little snow that winter". After going over a ridge we came down into a wide, deep, very warm valley on a road that wound back and forth. Then we had to climb again. After a pleasant hour on the bus we reached a ferry crossing where we had ten minutes before the ferry arrived. They took everyone off the bus before he drove in onto the boat. We also had six cars and a truck on the ferry for the trip across the fjord. It was a 15 to 20 minute crossing and, with the sun shining and a breeze blowing, the Professor and I both stood at the front of the boat and enjoyed it. (We had nicknamed the retired gentleman from Minnesota "the Professor" because he just seemed to fill the role.) Then another half hour brought us to Kristiansund.

This city is built on 4 islands which gives it a lovely setting. There is a good connecting bridge system including one new one spanning the harbour entrance. We toured some sections of the city and visited a very modern church here. From a side view the building was almost a triangle shape with a very low front entrance wall, a roof sweeping up to join the altar wall which is set on an angle leaning outwards about 15°. This wall behind the altar is one high window of stained glass set in a natural coloured frame. Half way up the sweep of window there are a set of beams in the church running from there back to the other point of the roof which gives it almost the effect of a mirror reflecting double. The side walls were set on angles almost like accordion folds and were in a textured white finish. The whole effect was very dramatic and pleasing.

Then after a very enjoyable meal at the Grand Hotel we walked down the quay to where the Finnmarken was docked. It was dusk by this time and the evening was pleasant so we just strolled along at our own pace back to the boat where we sat in the lounge and watched the city lights come on. As we had all been strolling the dock together, the courier left to attend to his other duties and we sailed promptly at 10 p.m. The courier rejoined us in the lounge and was telling us how we would sail out under the new high bridge when I pointed out the fact that that particular bridge was on our starboard side not ahead. At this point, the radio operator rushed in, spoke excitedly to him and they left immediately. A passenger was missing! We realized now that the ship was just making a circle in the harbour and heading back to the dock—and there stood the Professor! When the story came out, he had not boarded when the rest did but walked on down the quay in the other direction. But his time ran out and he arrived back in time to see the ship pulling away. Luckily, he spoke Norwegian so he contacted an official on the dock and they immediately radioed the ship. But that was the standing joke for the rest of the cruise. Before we sailed from any port, someone would ask, "Where is the Professor?"

The next morning we had already docked at Trondheim when I got up. The courier had planned a trip to the Ringve Museum here, a musical museum, but I played truant from that to go shopping instead. (I was told by the others later what a pleasant morning I had missed.) Tronhheim is a large city with quite extensive docks. There was a large area of road and bridge construction in the dock area plus the usual perfume of herring oil. Every harbour along the coast seems to have a herring oil plant and they are all perfumed accordingly. Since each plant has a distinctive white cloud over it, we always looked for it on the way in to a dock to see if the wind was blowing in the right direction. Usually it wasn't. Here the odour was quite strong in the dock area but when I reached downtown there was none.

There was very good shopping here with quite a number of the stores handling distinctly Norwegian goods. I window-shopped at 2 or 3 stores that carried needlework and lace. It was exquisite but expensive. I was especially interested in the pewter and wooden carvings. The patterns on the various items of pewter were so unusual and so distictively Scandinavian that I wanted to buy everything I saw. Fortunately, neither space nor weight limitations would allow that but I did choose several items as I progressed from store to store. The clothing stores looked nice, too, but their styles were the same as at home so I avoided them. I also located the post office to satisfy the stamp collector in the family. It is quite amusing to try to explain, in English, to a girl who spoke Norwegian, that I didn't want stamps to mail a letter, I wanted one stamp in each denomination, 5 øre, 10 øre, 15 øre, etc., up to 1 kr. Then I proceeded back to the ship to get rid of my parcels.

As there was still another hour before we sailed, I stood on deck and watched the loading procedures. There was a huge pile of mail on the dock, mail bags, parcels and bundles of magazines. These are piled on to a canvas sling that they lay on the dock until it is piled high, then they take the rope from each corner, attach it to the hook on the crane and the sling is lifted and swung over the ship and lowered down into the hold. There is an art to piling these items so they will all interlock and hold securely when the crane swings it swiftly on to the ship. There also must have been some order to that huge jumble of mail on the dock as sometimes they would pile a sling extremely full and other times they only put a light load on it, so that each sling full of mail was all for the same destination. It took them a full hour to load the mail and they finished at 3 minutes to 12. While this was going on there was other cargo of all sorts being loaded. This cargo is palletized and they use a double rope, one under each end of the pallet, to hook to the crane for lifting. Each man knew his job and it was amazing how fast the work progressed. We sailed right on time at 12 noon.

Trondheimfjord is one of the largest fjords and the cruise back out was very relaxing. The mountains come down close on both sides, there are little rock islands scattered through the channel and wherever there is any land along the shore, there are homes in the bright Norwegian clolours. A pleasant panorama to watch from a deck chair.

We reached the Stokksund Channel at 4 p.m. This is a narrow, twisting channel that has a blind turn. The captain gave a long, long blast on the whistle and the ship proceeded very slowly and cautiously through it. This brought us to a section of open sea but the day was calm and the water was, too.

Our next port of call was at Rørvik. This village was built around the central harbour and all the streets were curved. Beside the water there were fish drying racks. These are built on posts and along the rails at intervals there are ropes which are tied to big boulders on the ground to use as tie downs. These particular racks were filled with drying fish. Next to them there were the nets drying on their rotating type of racks and, of course, there was a herring oil factory. In the town, some of the stores were open even at this time of the evening. There was an interesting looking small country church here and I was heading toward it when the ship gave a blast of the whistle so I started back. At the quay, one of the southbound ships of the same line had come in and docked. They had a very short stop here and we both left at 9:15 p.m.; we to continue our journey north.

Early Wednesday morning before I got up, we crossed the Arctic Circle. This has been marked on the land by laying out a line of white painted stones. By 8:30 we had arrived at Ørnes. The quay was on a point of land but all you could see were a few houses off to the left. To the right around the point was a ferry dock. A small ferry was tied up to the dock and there was one truck still aboard. Around the truck cab were four men in serious discussion and from the gestures I gathered that the truck wouldn't go. As I watched, the ferry's officer walked away in disgust and went over to the store. The air was filled with the sound of riveting and, as I walked along the road toward the village, I could see a large new building going up at the water's edge. Just off the shore line where I walked were anchored several small fishing boats with dories tied up close to shore. As I watched, a tall weather-beaten fisherman hauled his dory in to shore by the rope, climbed in and rowed out to his fishing boat. He was starting his day's work.

(Continued on Page 8)

RONNING LODGE

By Ross Anderson

REPORT—JAYWALKERS JAMBOREE BOOTH

"At this time I would like to thank those who helped in any way at the Jaywalkers Booth. Thanks to those who worked in the booth and thanks to those who donated baking. It was a success and we feel with a little more effort and organization it could be better next year. Like the old saying, 'Many hands make light work.'

"Also, a special 'thank you' to **Bernie Magneson** for allowing us to monopolize her premises for two days. I'm sure she was glad when it was over. Thanks, **Bernie.**

"One Scandinavian sweater was left at the booth. It may be picked up at **Helen** and **Cliff Lien's** home, or phone 672-4391."

Helen Lien
Social Director

***

SPORTS

BOWLING

The Spring League will wind up two weeks from tonight, and the Fall League will begin on Fri., Sept. 7 at 7:00 p.m. Also, a morning League will start at 9:30 a.m. on Mon., Sept. 10. There are already 40 bowlers listed and if anyone would like to participate, please call **Ross Anderson** at **672-2785.**

CURLING

About three teams are interested in curling this fall and winter at present, and more curlers would be welcome—just phone **Ross.**

***

On **Saturday, June 16, 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.** a BARN DANCE was held at **Ken Nyback's,** one mile west of Camrose on Highway #13 and 4 1/2 miles north. Music was by the RYTHMN RANCH BOYS.

On **Wed., June 20,** our GENERAL MEETING was held at the College Cafeteria with a POT LUCK SUPPER. After a short meeting there was a couple of films shown which we hope you all enjoyed. This was an OPEN MEETING with children and friends invited. Also, this was the last meeting until September.

FUTURE DATE

On **Sun., Aug 26,** plans have been made to have our 'FAMILY PICNIC' on this date. Further information will be available later.

***

The Lodge Card Parties have been discontinued for the summer, however, it is again planned to hold this function starting in September or October.

***

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER! !

AFS Fellowships For 1973-74

The American-Scandinavian Foundation's Committee on Fellowships and Grants has awarded about $173,000 to 59 American and Scandinavian students, scholars and lecturers for 1973-74. The Foundation also made funds available to six institutions for projects of significant value in American-Scandinavian cultural exchange.

Thirty-five Scandinavians were awarded $73,000 for studies and research in the United States. Winning applicants ranged in age from 20 to 40 years and were, for the most part, at the pre-doctoral level of study.

Five Norwegians were awarded scholarships and grants from the Foundation.

Four Americans were awarded scholarships for studies in Norway.

Camp In Norway

SONS OF NORWAY, the world's largest organization of Americans and Canadians of Norwegian birth, descent and affiliation, this summer will sponsor its first Language Camp in Norway for 40 students. This unique venture is in keeping with the organization's policy to attract and maintain the interest of the younger members in their heritage. Sons of Norway has a total membership of 85,000 in more than 300 local chapters throughout the United States and Canada. District One of the Fraternal Organization is the facilitating sponsor of **CAMP NORWAY 1973.**

The students range in age from 15-18 and come from all parts of the United States. After nine days of travel in the beautiful fjord district of Western Norway from Bergen to Trondheim, the students will head south through Røros and Gudbrandsdal to the campsite near Hamar in the scenic Lake Mjøsa region. During a three-week camp stay, there will be several field trips to the capital, Oslo. The students also will have an opportunity for considerable contact with Norwegian young people.

Throughout their stay in Norway, the campers will pursue studies of Norwegian language and culture leading to high school or college credit. The program will operate under the guidelines of the Minnesota State Department of Education as well as Augsburg College in Minneapolis.

SONS OF NORWAY, founded in 1895 as a fraternal benefit society, conducts a wide range of educational, cultural and humanitarian programs involving numerous scholarships for students and teachers, in North America as well as in Norway.

This first annual SONS OF NORWAY camp in Norway adds a new dimension to the current ethnic renaissance and a new link to the **Land of the Midnight Sun** with trans-Atlantic ties dating back almost 150 years when the first organized Norwegian emigration began. According to Mr. **Roy C. Eide** of Minneapolis, the SONS OF NORWAY International President, it is hoped that this pilot project will ultimately lead to similar camps in America for Norwegian students. "We firmly believe that by bringing together the young generation in this manner, we also contribute to a broader understanding and closer cooperation so badly needed in our tumultuous times."

"The Offshore North Sea—1974 Congress" (ONS-74) will be held in Stavanger September 3-6, 1974. It is the first conference of its kind to be organized in Norway. Stavanger which is the seat of the Norwegian Oil Directorate and headquarters of the Norwegian Oil Company, is called Norway's oil capital. About 50 foreign companies operating in the North Sea have established themselves in Stavanger.

Offshore activities to be surveyed

The purpose of the **Offshore North Sea—1974** is to present a comprehensive, up-to-date survey of the activities of off-shore Norway, and new developments that may be expected in the coming years.

The exhibition is open to all manufacturers and dealers in goods and services connected with offshore oil exploration. It will take place in the Siddishallen, a modern trade fair centre two miles from the centre of Stavanger. Altogether, about 40,000 square feet of indoor space will be available to exhibitors.

What Kind of People Are Scandinavians?

An English Architect and Writer, Eric de Mare, Who Has Visited Scandinavia Several Times, Cut Them Down—or is it up?—to Size

The purpose of travel, a modern writer has declared, is to obtain ecstasy. That is one of those wild, sweeping generalizations which are helpful, if not entirely true. Ecstasy is a rare state of mind and not one which can be accurately measured. It is a relative condition. It cannot be captured at will. It just comes or does not come, and it is likely to arrive at home unasked on a soft October evening when "the yellow smoke rubs its back upon the window-panes", as it is far off "on a cavernous waste shore cast in the unstilled Cyclades". It comes mysteriously and it is entirely personal.

What moments most nearly approached ecstacy for this writer on his travel in Scandinavia? In Norway it was to step on deck at the dawn of a bright day in the Oslo Fjord; the first sight of the great colored warehouses by the water at Trondheim; the discovery of Edvard Munch. In Denmark it was the romantic approach to Frederiksborg Castle; the huge white womb of Odense Cathedral; the rush from the dunes across the flat sands and into the breakers on the shores of Fanø. In Sweden it was the inside of Sødra Rada Church; the east ends of Lund Cathedral and the monastery church at Varnhem; a sail among the Stockholm skerries in the brilliant evening light of the North; the sweet scent of burning birch logs and the tinkle of a sleigh bell when the first snow had fallen on the woods of Dalecarlia and the skis were leaning expectantly against the wall; the early rising from a tent on the edge of Lake Vaanern, the sun warming the flesh, the water as smooth as the granite, the fir trees dreaming in the haze across the water—very Sibelius, so that the Swan of Tuonela began to float around the brain, while Sweden's great gift to humanity, the Primus Stove, hissed swan-like at one's side in the stillness—

The earth expanding right
hand and left hand,
The picture alive, every part
in its best light
The music falling in where
it is wanted, and
stopping where it is not
wanted . . .
Walt Whitman

The old cliche says that the purpose of travel is simply to broaden the mind—in other words to increase one's mental store of comparisons. It remains a good definition, for in the end it is one's comparative study and understanding of human beings, both by direct personal contacts and through the observation of their works, which are most worth broadening.

What are the Danes, the Norwegians and the Swedes really like and why are they like that? Let us start with the Danes and the Norwegians and end with the Swedes who are the most neurotic and therefore the most sensitive, interesting and potentially creative of the Scandinavian peoples, that, paradoxically, in a half mad world only the slightly unbalanced, and not the normal, people can be mentally sound.

The Danes must be among the happiest folk in the world. They are the least formal and the most relaxed of the Scandinavians. They enjoy living and do not feel guilty about that, in spite of the protestant reformers and the pietists of the past. Especially do they enjoy good eating and good drinking, which goes to show that they are highly civilized and would appreciate the words of our **William Cobbett,** as we so foolishly do not, "Good eating, good drinking, good lodging; without these, people do not really live; it is staying upon the earth."

The Danes also love social intercourse, they laugh a great deal, they never stop talking and their curiosity about everything under the sun is insatiable. Like all the Scandinavians they have their feet firmly planted on the soil, they cope admirably with the practical side of life, they are excellent craftsmen and they possess a penetrating, sometimes cynical sense of humor. The Danes are also, of course, splendid farmers, and it is perhaps because they live by agriculture rather than industry, that they are in less spiritual travail than the rest of modern industrial society. Growing food is, after all, the basic, stabilizing reality, and what shall it profit a man if he have all the motor cars, safety razors, bidets and explosives in the world if his belly be not filled with healthful, home-grown food?

The Danes are also the most tolerant of the northern peoples; that is to say, they accept the individual for what he is and do not frown if the superficial conventions are broken; one may still survive as an eccentric in Denmark without being ostracized. The Danes are the most friendly and "human" people in Europe, and the most genuinely democratic, even in personal relations. Denmark is, to use a specially Danish word, a **hyggelig** country. One can learn a good deal about a nation by seeking out such special national words which have no exact equivalent in any other language. Roughly **hyggelig** means a condition of contentment, good-will, of being at ease.

All things in **hyggelig** Denmark are on a human scale, open-hearted and friendly—landscape, architecture and mental attitudes. The country's creative expressions are never marred by delusions of grandeur or vulgarity, and show few signs of that almost universal complaint of the modern world—paranoia. In Denmark one can be oneself. Just take one, two, three or four glasses of clear, golden Carlsberg lager, light a cigar (yes, even if you are a lady), smile benignly and relax.

Of course, this easy acceptance of life has its drawbacks. If one never descends to the depths, one is less likely to reach the heights. In Denmark one seeks vainly for drama, for exaggeration and, as **Shaw Desmond** wrote in **"The Soul of Denmark"** (published by **T. Fisher Unwin,** 1918), the Dane has a tendency "to call fresh air draught, to shun all shocks from cold baths to mental showers, to turn tragedy into comedy, and with the Preacher 'to have a little slumber, a little sleep, a little folding of the hands to sleep'; and this—the tragi-comedy of it!—in a world of quick changes, of revolutions, of war".

Yet somewhere in the Dane, buried deep down below that cheerful exterior, that naturalness and lack of affectation that tolerance, that love of comfort, that common sense, that easy, undramatic temperament, lives a shy, romantic dreamer with ardent feelings, a strong national pride, a touch of melancholy, a touch of lyricism and a reforming zeal. After all, Denmark has produced **Andersen, Kierkegaard, Thorvaldsen,** and **Grundtvig.** (She has also produced, curiously enough, that intense, beautiful but terrible film on witch-burning, "The Day of Wrath"). Moreover, the Danes are not mere plodding farmers or stay-at-home shopkeepers—they are adventurous seamen, too. In the naval battles against **Nelson** and in the war with Prussia in the nineteenth century, the Danes proved themselves to be formidable and spirited fighters, and the underground movement during the Nazi occupation was by no means a schoolboy's affair.

In short, the Danes have come to terms with life. They just have achieved a well-balanced community and a reasonable just economy. The people still fully enjoy living in a world which is elsewhere biting its fingernails. Unlike most other small nations (and several large ones also), she has accepted her limitations and hence does not suffer from a sense of inferiority. Denmark has heeded the sound advise of **Grundtvig:** "We were not born to grandeur and magnificence. To stick to the earth will serve us best."

To arrive at Oslo from Copenhagen is a revelation. The jolly restless chatter gives place to a sense of quiet brooding. Tall, handsome, dignified people pad along like Indians on the trail or sit silently in rows below the lindens on Karl Johan Street gazing into space. They speak rarely and then the soft, sing-song words are direct, simple and to the practical point. The Norwegians may also have come to terms with life, but the terms are more tense. Life in the north does not permit much frittering away of energy. Nature is not always your friend, however noble, mysterious and beautiful she seems. Your friend is your own sound, strong body; its training and its power are your pride and joy—your body which has learned to survive the rigors of a hard life, that can haul at the ropes untiringly till the storm is over, that can spend twenty hours of the summer-day bringing in the fodder that must last through the long, bitter night of winter. The pride of the body that has survived and the courage of the spirit which helped it through—these make the dignity of the Norwegian temperament with its simplicity, its quiet, fatalistic stoicism and controlled emotions.

The people have little time for the superficial things, the gay ribbons and subtleties of existence; they do not fuss like the Swedes in trying to perfect either broad organization or trivial detail; they are kindly enough but undemonstrative. Less conventional than the Swedes, more so than the Danes, they reserve their feelings.

The Norwegians can be lively and they enjoy gay company. They have produced highly emotional artists and writers like **Munch** and **Ibsen.** These views were obtained soon after the Second World War, and it is possible that the Occupation affected the proud Norwegians far more deeply than the easy going Danes. That sense of cold self-containment, of withdrawal, may be the result not merely of the centuries old fight against physical conditions but of a few years of passive resistance against other human beings behaving at their Germanic worst. One remembers Norwegian friends who were not in the least like our generalization. One remembers that peasant deep in the mountains who invited one to breakfast—a magnificent old fellow, tall as a giant, upright, spare in limb, with clear blue eyes, a great beaked Viking nose, content with life, with his sturdy, smiling wife and his beloved possession—a flashing cornet on which to play the folk tunes of his valley. A lovable man, gentle and courteous, an aristocrat.

One meets the gentle, honest, free peasant in Sweden too, he is

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FINNISH SOCIETY

By Arvi Liimatainen

As the articles for the July issue of the **Scandinavian Centre News** had to be submitted by June 15, the activities that took place after that date will be reported in the August issue.. The **Juhannus** outing was scheduled for June 23 at Floating Stone Lake. Several members of Edmonton's Finnish Society were planning to attend the Finnish Canadian Grand Festival at Vancouver on June 29-30 and July 1-2. Congratulations to Mr. **V. Ristola** who celebrated his fiftieth birthday in June. A party to mark the occassion was held at **Ristola's** on June 16.

Prior to the end of June, Mr. **T. Salomaa** spent a good deal of time in British Columbia. He was building a new home for his wife and family and they were planning to leave Edmonton for their new residence in the Okanagan Valley shortly after the school term was over. Good Luck to them!

One event did occur before June 15. **Doris Liimatainen** was able to represent our society in the annual Scandinavian Queen contest. However, she wasn't chosen as Queen and now has another small trophy to match a previous one obtained at a Queen contest several years ago. Mr. **J. Rama** made the presentation to the new Scandinavian Queen. **Janna Geitel**, the retiring Queen, received her plane ticket to Scandinavia and I'm sure it was most appreciated and will be well used this summer.

The Twentieth Anniversary celebrations are to be held in the Nordic Room at the Scandinavian Centre. A few ideas concerning a program for the event were discussed at the May executive meeting. If any of you have some ideas for program contributions, the members of the executive would be more than happy to hear them.

Many thanks to lovely **Doris Liimatainen** who found time in her busy schedule to represent the Finnish Society at the Scandinavian Centre Queen contest.

***

"My sincere thanks to everyone for the nice surprise party, flowers and gift I received on my special birthday recently. Special thanks to **Arvo Ruuth, Urho Leino, Sirkka Ristola** and other ladies for all they did to make this pleasant surprise possible."

—Kaino Nikkanen.

***

Speedy recovery to **Onni Virtanen** who was in hospital recently.

NEWS FROM FINLAND

SECURITY TALKS LOOK TO FUTURE

From Suomen Silta No. 1 1973, English Section
Published by Suomi-Seura (Suomi Society), Helsinki

Representatives of 32 European nations plus Canada and the U.S. have got together in a Helsinki suburb to try to work out solutions to a wide range of political problems adding up to collective security and international cooperation. The talks opened on Nov. 22, 1972, and a Christmas recess was called in the middle of December. An atmosphere described by observers as "cordial" prevailed during the three and a half weeks before the break. It was agreed to resume consultaticns in the middle of January 1973 and hopes were expressed that the planned full-scale Security Conference could meet in Helsinki as early as June.

The Soviet government has been working for a European security conference ever since the mid-fifties. In fact, the **Daily Telegraph** of London, voicing far-right sentiment, hastened to label the Helsinki consultations a "Soviet trap" into which the Western powers had let themselves be drawn.

But Ambassador **Val Peterson**, head of the U.S. delegation, took a different view. At first cautious and hesitant, the U.S. now looks forward, he said, to an end of the division of Europe and to a more open world, with greater contacts among people of all nations and freer exchange of information. If the ambassadors meeting in Finland can agree on a substantial agenda, he declared, then the U.S. will endorse the Soviet call for a full-scale conference.

Finland offered to take on the duties of host some years ago. President **Urho Kekkonen** and his ministers worked hard to get the talks going.

The preliminary consultations are now being held at the Dipoli, a student recreation centre in a community called Tech Town, which was built soon after the war on a wooded peninsula just past the western outskirts of Helsinki. Five large conference rooms plus 55 other rooms were set aside under strict security arrangements for the consultations. Working areas and elaborately prepared equipment were made available to the press and other information media. A number of rooms were reserved in the spanking new Hotel Inter-Continental in downtown Helsinki for representatives whose missions could not offer adequate office space.

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Cruising Fjords

Back to the ship to sail along more of this majestic coast.

On the starboard or mainland side were snow capped mountains coming right down to the sea. The misty clouds had settled down over the mountains forming a mantle or collar. This left the sparkling white peaks floating out of the grey mist and silhouetted against the same grey. The effect was striking and unusual.

Later in the morning, we had the Norwegian Coast Guard look us over. Three fast boats, which our courier called "Cannon Boats", came up from behind and the first went to our port side and the other two passed on the starboard. They were nice, clean, sleek looking boats and we waved to the crews.

By noon we docked at Bodø, another fair-sized city for the three hour stop. This gave me lots of time for shopping but first I walked from the quay up the hillside to the new Cathedral which was consecrated in 1956. It was a lovely modern building mainly of cement. Inside, there were Scandinavian rug type of wall hangings; the pews were upholstered in red leather, and the trim was stained wood. The pulpit was made of different coloured woods set in a geometric pattern. There was a lovely stained glass window but unfortunately the sun was not shining at the moment. To the right was a small chapel and the baptismal font. The font was a beautiful grey marble with an extremely tall copper cover on it.

Close to the Cathedral there was an old style fishing boat which I inspected next. It had a small, enclosed area at the stern and oar locks down each side. Between the Cathedral and the post office there was a small park with a couple of pools in it but these had not been filled with water yet. One of the pools had an interesting sculpture of a walrus on which the kids must enjoy playing.

Then I directed my steps to the large shopping area in Bodø and proceeded to distribute a lot more of my hard-earned money. Besides more pewter, I also got hand knitted mitts and in one store I discovered carved, wooden mugs in a very light weight wood which I could not identify. In this store I ran out of money and had to make the girl wait while I went over to a bank to cash more traveller's cheques. Then, loaded down with parcels, I returned to the ship.

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(Continued from Page 7)

the backbone of his country. The Swedes also have the emotional reserve of the Norwegians, but perhaps because they are less pure as a race and have been in more frequent contact with the rest of Europe, their national characteristics are less clearly cut.

Sweden is a small country which has suddenly developed within little more than half a century from a poor agricultural nation to a wealthy industrial one, supported by a rich stock of raw materials. Thus she has done well materially, especially in being able to secure large export markets, within, the framework of a world-wide financial system which refuses to equate consumption and production—a system which has had, and continues to have, such disastrous results elsewhere. Sweden has also managed to remain neutral through two world wars and has greatly benefited thereby. In Sweden life seems secure, no one is really poor and the state looks after its citizens, who now enjoy what has been described as Luxury Communism. Everything in the garden should be lovely, and yet the people do not seem to be as happy as they could be. A sense of anxiety and frustration, barely conscious, seems to hang in the air, together with a provincial smugness and an enslavement to petty conventions.

The Swede appears to be a practical, down-to-reality materialist, with a hedonism as a basic philosophy. But this is not really so, for he is not without a nagging, and may be divine, discontent, and is aware deep down, like the Dane, of a dreamy melancholia. **Staamning**, meaning more or less "atmosphere of time and place", is a popular and significant Swedish word.

The designs which emerge from the large architectural office of **K. F.**, the co-operative organization, reveal something about the Swede. They are clean, earnest, worthy, practical, austere and utilitarian. One feels that every one has done his best, driven by a remorseless pietist conscience, to make life orderly, hygienic, efficient, tidy and organized for everybody—including those who dislike being organized.

Thereby, as a symbol, the **K.F.** architecture poses a problem of importance for the world—a problem of which the Swedes themselves are aware. The problem is this: Having attained a desirable, practical society in which all are well fed, well clothed and well housed (though, to be sure, even in Sweden the living space is still cramped); having also attained all the civic amenities, where do you go then? The welfare state has been consolidated, but still people are not happy. A kind of boredom is produced and there remains, to use a favorite Swedish word—a **laangtan**—a kind of vague longing. But for what? One gropes for the answer.

The Swedes, perhaps, burden themselves too heavily with an obsessional belief in perfection. The individual is given too little scope in which to exercise his personal foibles. Too much is expected of him from too early an age, especially in conformity of behavior, and this acts against his deep sense of individualism fostered through generations on the ancient family smallholding. The Swedish temperament is, in fact curiously paradoxical, as already stated, a mixture of Teutonic mechanical perfectionism and love of abstractions and of Anglo-Saxon individualism, earthy practicality and ability to improvise. It may be that the Swede, under modern conditions, cannot find enough outlet for the latter, Anglo-Saxonish, side of his nature or for his deep emotion. The violent Viking of old is in conflict with the cautious, tidy modern bourgeois (the term now includes the Worker) with his shyness, his restrictive puritanism and his, in many ways admirable, social conscience. That conflict poses a problem for the world—the problem of reconciling the deep emotional impulses, creative and destructive, of the individual with the demands and restrictions of organized society. The welfare state, whatever its physical advantages and its ethical justification, has hardly begun to try to solve that problem. For one thing, it tends to restrict the drama, the adventure, and the power of the personal libido which give savor to life.

Sweden has borrowed much from other European countries which she has adapted to improve her own culture, especially in architecture, and she has given much to the world in her turn. The Swedish mind works slowly, deliberately and to good effect. Swedes, for instance, have discovered almost a quarter of all the known chemical elements—more than any other single nation; a significant fact. Sweden has produced, and goes on producing, great engineers and scientists, in spite of her small population. Thus she is giving more than her share to that human struggle towards the control of the economic environment, as yet only half-conscious, which unless the moral adaption to the new technological conditions proves to be too difficult, will soon bring about a new age of abundance, liberty and creative leisure.

Sweden has already given her people a relatively high standard of living. She leads the world in visual design. Though perhaps not the most cultured, she is the most civilized among nations.

Do's and Don'ts When Travelling

In a world where traveling is the order of the day, a tourist overseas is bound to be an object of interest to other people. They'll want you to answer a lot of questions, and you'll probably want to ask them as many yourself.

People, of course, are a chief part of a country's attraction. If you take the opportunity to meet and talk with them, you'll find they're likely to be even more interesting than the public monuments.

You may not speak their language, but you'll be surprised how many of them speak yours. In just about every country, you are likely to meet a surprising number of people who have a working knowledge of English. Many of them speak it fluently.

This doesn't mean you should not learn foreign words and phrases. The more of the language you know, and the more you use it, the friendlier will be your reception. Other people will be flattered and pleased that you made an effort to talk with them in their own tongue. Conversation between people of different countries—even without a language problem—sometimes gets out of hand, leads to misunderstanding and hard feelings, unless care is taken to keep things on the right track. So here are a few suggested **"do's"** and **"don'ts"** of international conversation that are worth noting.

Do . . . make it known you are a Canadian.

Do . . . speak of the things in their country that you like and admire.

Don't . . . harp on things you find strange or disagreeable.

Do . . . speak appreciatively of their culture and special customs.

Don't . . . compare them unfavorably with Canada and the things you are used to at home.

Do . . . talk about how well they've done in developing their industries and natural resources, or—if you don't think so—keep quiet about it.

Don't . . . criticize them because they haven't done more, or compare one country unfavourably with another you may have visited.

Do . . . uphold our reputation for meeting other people on an equal footing.

Don't . . . give the impression of preaching or talking down to the friends you make. People all over the world chide Americans for this.

Do . . . remember that as a Canadian you are an object of interest to other people and, as such, are expected to answer fully as many questions as you ask.

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The July Schedule of Broadcasts

Sunday, July 1, 15 and 29

DANIA DOINGS

By Lili Nielsen

Tom and **Vera Nielsen** recently had the pleasure of having a visit from their daughter, son-in-law, and grandson, **Helen, Bruce**, and **Roby Stetson**, also **Bruce's** mother, Mrs. **E. Stetson**, all from Las Vegas, Nevada.

On May 26, a family picnic was held in Mayfair Park with children, grandchildren, and greatgrandchildren from Saskatoon, Consort, Ardrossan, Sherwood Park and Edmonton (27 in all). Two sons from Grande Prairie and Calgary were not able to attend.

Our annual "Klondike Dance" will be held on Fri., July 20 at 9:00 p.m. in the Viking Room of the Scandinavian Centre. Dress—Klondike style. Music—The Polka Dots.

***

The Scandinavian Centre held its annual "Queen Contest" Sun., June 10 and we are pleased to announce that Miss **Lisa Fisker**, representing the Danish Society, was elected as first runner up. **Lisa** is 18 years old, she was born in Edmonton but has attended Grade 1, 2, 5 and 6 in Aarhus, Denmark, and is at present working in her father's furniture store. **Lisa** has many different interests such as embroidery, silk screening and all kinds of sports. Thank you, **Lisa**, for participating—our sincere apologies for giving you such short notice about this event.

Alle danske besøgende i Canada modtag dette som en saerlig Velkommen til Edmonton i Canada's provins Alberta.

Denne Velkomst Hilsen skal vaere til alle danske som er paa besøg her i Alberta, fra bestyrelsen i den danske forening Dania i Edmonton.

Vi haaber at alle gaester føler hjemme her under besøget og at alle føler at besøget var pengene vaer.

Den 50 aarige danske forening Dania afholder deres arlige Klondike Dans i det Skandinaviske Centre Fredag den 20 Juli Kl 21,00. Vi hved at det er lige før hjemrejsen for mange, men prøv at vaere med, ikke for at se hvordan danske i Edmonton fejrer Klondike, men ogsaa for at møde andre danske der er her pa besøg.

Det kan hende at Larsens fra Roskilde møder Jensens fra Struer, der besøger datteren i Canada, og opdager at de begge har faelles venner i Naestved. Verden er jo saa lille, ikke som vi laerte i skolen "Verden er saa stor, saa stor, Lasse, Lasse lille" Afstandene er blevet forkortet umaadeligt med Jet Fly.

Tag part i Edmonton's Klondike Dage, oplev Guldfeberen fra 1800 og halfemserne. Se paraden og glem ikke Søndagens Promenade i Edmonton's Centrun Et hav af mennesker klaedt i gamle dragter fra 1900 tallet.

Dette er lige after det store Vandshov paa floden (Northsak. River) En hel søndag kan blive brugt til at opleve den gamle Guldfeber.

Men ingen har besøgt Klondike Days før efter et besøg i den danse Klub "Dania". Vi ser frem 'til at møde jer i det Skandinaviske Centre den 20 Juli Kl. 21.

Paa den danske forening Danias Bestyrelse og egne vejne vil jeg byde alle danske Velkommen til Canada og haber at se jer for Klondike i Scandinavian Centre 142 St. 125 Ave.

Claus Jacobsen, formand

See the ad under Bulletin Board in this paper.

News from the Danish Church

By Oscar Filtenborg

The church's picnic for all this year will be Sun., July 15 at **Erik** and **Jo-Ann Thomsen's** farm in Millet. Drive South of Hwy. 2A from Leduc (sign toward Wetaskiwin) 1 mile South of Kavanagh, turn left 1 mile then turn right 1 mile. The farm is on the left side about 150 yards from the road. We meet at the farm from 2 p.m. Around 3 we get coffee and it would be nice if some would bring a cake. Then we will have a speaker, singsong, games, etc. Supper is again this year planned as a pot-luck-supper, where we all bring something which we share. Campfire in the evening. So let us be many July 15. A special invitation to all visitors from Denmark.

BAPTISMALS:

Scott Verner Forrest, son of **Alstair** and **Kirsten Forrest. Vanessa** and **Evelyn Jørgensen,** daughters of **Jens** and **Gerda Jørgensen. Dennis Mark Hansen**, son of **Konrad** and **Inger Hansen. Diana Karen Allen**, daughter of **Martin Robert Allen** and **Dorthe** (nee **Vimtrup**).

We wish all who go to Denmark this year a pleasant trip, happy days in Denmark, and a welcome back. And to all visitors from Denmark we will say **"velkommen til Edmonton".**

SUMMER CAMP—SYLVAN LAKE
August 18th - 25th

sponsored by the Danish congregations in Edmonton and Calgary.

It is our pleasure again this year to invite children age 6-12 from Edmonton and Calgary to join us at camp at Sylvan Lake, west of Red Deer. This year is going to be our 7th year of summer camp and so far our camps have succeeded very well. We hope this year to see children from previous years attending together with many new first-year-campers.

The camp will be directed by pastor **C. Staal Nielsen**, Calgary, and staff from Edmonton will do the cooking for us, while Calgary staff mainly are working on the program for the children. The theme will be: **Around in Denmark**—from the west coast hunting for treasures, to the funny inhabitants of Mols, or to Southern Jytland—to Copenhagen, Tivoli—and maybe a short trip to Bornholm, the island close to Russia. Lots of fun—bible studies, swimming, eating, etc.—you name it!

The fee is $20.00, including 50¢ for candy. The fee is kept as low as possible to give most children a chance to come, thanks to those who are donating food and to the staff who are working on a voluntary basis.

We have room for about 70 children—35 from each congregation. Usually our camp is filled up, so please register as early as possible.

Registration slips may be obtained from and sent to pastor **O. Filtenborg, 10532 - 48 St., Edmonton, T6A 2B2** (Phone **469-5123**) or to pastor **C. Staal Nielsen, 4415 - 14A St., S.W. Calgary, T2T 3Y4** (Phone **287-1237**)—not later than Aug. 4. Further information will be mailed when we receive the registration slip—or can be obtained by calling named phone numbers. Checks should be issued to: **Danish Summer Camp Fund.**

On Saturday the 25th everybody is welcome. We expect parents to pick up their children that Saturday afternoon, not later than 6 p.m.

On behalf of the staff
Oscar Filtenborg C. Staal Nielsen.

WATER OF LIFE

By **Mogens Lind**
from **Danish Foreign Office Journal 1964.**

The distilling of akvavit or snaps began 125 years ago, but it was at the beginning of the sixteenth century that Danes first had the idea of making spirit from grain or potatoes. About the year 1800, there were some 2500 makers of snaps; now it is made at only one place, but it is better than it used to be.

Danish **akvavit** gets its name from **aqua vitae**—water of life—and though you may live without it it is a pity to do without it entirely.

A poet has called it 'the noble spirit', and it is noble as well as potent and lively, ice-cold and hot; which means that it should be ice-cold when drunk and hot when down the hatch.

A great Danish painter, **Johannes Larsen**, said that he had found it a great help to have a **snaps** with his supper every day—for the past sixty years.

A **gourmet** said you could eat a number of national Danish dishes without **snaps**, but in that case they didn't taste of much.

And finally the oldest Dane in history, the good sailor, **Drackenberg**, said, before his all too early death at the age of 146, that he would never have lived to that age but for the fact that in the last 121 years of his life he had drunk lots of **snaps** every day!

A PLEASANT DRINK

We are more moderate in our drinking nowadays. Partly this is a matter of common sense, and partly it is one of price. Indeed, many people declared, 60 years ago, that they would stop drinking **snaps**, now that the price had gone up from 48 to 55 øre a bottle. But after recovering from the shock they went on drinking, though possibly they drank one less than before. The next big shock came in 1918, when **akvavit** jumped to 11 kroner a bottle; but most people only found greater enjoyment in it and the poets took to praising the noble spirit in earnest.

Of course it was not only in Denmark that spirits got so expensive. It was a phenomenon familiar the world over. But **Albert Engstrom**, famous Swedish artist, quickly noted that 'though **snaps** may get dearer, it is never too dear for the money'.

But they stopped cleaning windows with **akvavit** before the First World War. Its suitability for this was well known, but then there was the question of price and it was also found that any other spirit would do for the job. Nor would anyone today use **akvavit** as a cooling liquid in cars.

Yet for all that **snaps** has maintained its position: because it is as good as it is; because it is so different from any other drink; and because every day there are people in Malaga, Heidelberg, Brighton, Tromsø, Nagasaki, Torremolinos, Dunkirk, Philadelphia, Cannes, Odense, San Francisco, Melbourne and Edmonton who find it is a pleasant drink that is—different. Some even say it is better, but that may be an exaggeration.

AN OLD INN RULE

The Danes of course have their own, very special traditions with regard to **akvavit**. Among other things, there is an old inn regulation which in blithe simplicity says:

1. On these premises **akvavit** may only be served with rich food.
2. All food is rich—except pancakes.
3. Pancakes may not be served on these premises.

In another inn there is an inscription which seems to suggest that the Vikings liked **akvavit**. On one of the oak beams in the ceiling is the sentence:

'The old Vikings always drank another **snaps**.'

While we are talking of old traditions, there is also an old saying that 'It is poor coffee which will not stand **snaps**'. And this in turn is connected with the fact that for many generations it was the custom, especially in the country, to drink coffee with **akvavit**. The drink was known as 'a little black one', and particularly in winter it was a fine pick-me-up when one came in. The custom has survived into our own time, providing the exception which proves the rule that **snaps** must always be drunk ice-cold. 'A little black one' also had its own definite tradition, embodied in an old formula that a small silver coin should be placed in the bottom of a cup and hot coffee poured on it until the coin can no longer be seen, and then **snaps** poured on till one can see it once more. It is a simple recipe.

'The little black one' has probably never got beyond the frontiers of Denmark; but it may be noted that it is not uncommon, in many parts of the world, to drink an **akvavit** with coffee—only not in it.

THE DANISH WAY TO DRINK IT

Rummaging in the archives, one finds an occasional characteristic or amusing thing about **akvavit**.

People have been urged, whenever they receive potatoes, to remember that from two potatoes they could have got one small **snaps**. And there is the story of the tramp who said, as he raised his glass of **akvavit** to the summer sun: 'Well, a man without teeth can chew potatoes when they're cooked like this!' And there is also the story of the man of eighty who was told by his doctor that he would have to give up drinking **snaps** or lose his sight, and who thoughtfully replied: 'Well, I've seen a lot in my time.' And there is the categorical quotation from a Japanese school book, which confined its information about Denmark to the statement: 'Denmark is an agricultural country where they grow **snaps**, which the people like to drink.' Which is true

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BUFORD VASA LODGE

By Dolores Johnson

The May meeting was held on the 31st, with 22 members present.

The up-coming District 18 Convention was one of the topics under discussion.

A report of the "Flea Market" sale was given. A very nice profit was realized by this.

Two new members, Mr. and Mrs. **Vallan**, newcomers to the district, were initiated. A hearty welcome goes out to them.

The Midsummer-Social committee reported that the Social was in the Clubhouse at Vasa Park on June 16. The neighbouring lodges and their friends were invited to attend.

The date chosen for the Wiener Roast is July 16. This is a Monday evening and as usual it will be held in Markstedt's Grove. This is open to members from other Lodges, and we cordially invite them to attend.

The hosting committee had a raffle in lieu of the card party scheduled for entertainment. This realized a small profit, and the lucky winner was **Mary Lunde**. We all enjoyed coffee and cookies and the birthday cake that my sister brought for me. Thank you, **Betty**.

***

Deepest sympathy is extended to the **Lundes** on the death of **Erling's** father, and to the **Hamiltons** on the death of **Fred's** uncle.

***

Myrna Vallan has gone to the coast to be with her father who is in an intensive care unit in one of the hospitals there.

***

The **Markstedts** have been entertaining old friends from B.C. recently.

***

Congratulations to **Bob Pearson** who won 100 silver dollars at the Thorsby Sports day raffle.

***

Hilda Modin, Toots Pearson and **Irma Anderson** were in Medicine Hat on June 7, to attend the installation of **Hilda's** sister, **Lilly French**, as Matron of the Eastern Star Lodge.

***

Brother **Floyd Modin** is now at Wetaskiwin Auxiliary Hospital. The therapy there is wonderful. The members of Falun Lodge have done so much to visit and entertain him, and this, too, is wonderful therapy.

***

Congratulations to **Sandra Pearson**, whose marriage to Mr. **Joe Rye** took place on June 2.

***

Congratulations also to **Roger Gunsch** who won third prize in the calf roping competition, when he and **Alda** went to the New Sarepta Rodeo recently.

***

Helge Erickson was in Calgary on the June 1 weekend. He and his orchestra played for the Post Masters Convention Ball, which was held in The Highlander Motor Inn.

***

We certainly had a lot of excitement around our farm the first week in June. A two-headed calf was born to one of our range cows. The calf was stillborn, and had to have the assistance of our veterinarian. Word of course got around and there were almost a hundred people here to see it in a couple of days. In case anyone wonders, the Department of Animal Science at the University didn't want it, so we gave it a "decent burial".

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Water of Life

enough, if perhaps not altogether exhaustive.

Danish **snaps** is drunk in many ways all over the world. To follow the rule of the Danes themselves, it should chiefly be drunk with the national Danish **smørrebrød** or cold buffet, and with cold food generally, as well as with some hot Danish dishes such as boiled cod and split cod, eel, and pea soup, as also with very rich spiced food, and of course with cheese; on which last occasion one speaks of a 'cheese **snaps**' as an absolute essential.

Danish **akvavit** is today an industrial product of high repute and an important export line; but it is also a product which is strangely infused with poetry and character, vitality and enjoyment, delicacy and purity, coolness and warmth—and that is a rare thing in an industrial commodity.

Summertime Is Festival Time

A Fjord Ski Festival, international fishing competitions and "hambo-ing" in the streets are among a full calendar of lively events during Scandinavia's summer season.

It all starts with Midsummer Night celebrations, June 23—the shortest night of the year and mid-point of the season when the Scandinavian sun provides daylight about 20 hours a day. Bonfires, fireworks, open-air folk dancing and other colorful festivities are traditional on Midsummer Night throughout most of Scandinavia and visitors are welcome to join in the celebrations.

During the rest of the summer, Denmark, Iceland, Finland, Norway and Sweden offer a wide variety of events which tourists can enjoy either as participants or spectators.

country stages nine summer events which range from rock festivals to religious music concerts and include all areas of the arts. Among them are the Savonlinna Opera Festival, July 7-15, which this year will present an outdoor performance of the "Magic Flute" in the courtyard of the 15th century Olavinlinna castle, and the Helsinki Festival, Aug. 23 to Sept. 9, which includes a series of concerts, opera, ballet, drama, jazz and pop exhibitions with international stars.

During the Aarhus festival weeks in Denmark, celebrated in the attractive capital of Jutland Sept. 8 to 15, the open-air Museum will be brought to life with music and dancing.

Many other great cultural events such as symphony concerts and performances by the Royal Ballet will also take place during this happy week in Aarhus.

For sailing enthusiasts Denmark also offers a wide choice of rentals of sailboats, motorboats and houseboats for cruising the country's 4,600 miles of coastline. On Aero, one of Denmark's 500 picturesque islands, a new sailing school features one, two or three weeks of instruction in summer months.

Folk festivals fill much of Sweden's summer calendar and one of the most popular is the Hambo dancing championship held in Halsingland province on July 7. Dressed in colorful costumes, the dancers whirl their way in a carnival-like procession from the town of Kilafors through the lovely Ljusan valley to Jarvso, a distance of about 40 miles.

You can take in a number of other folk festivals featuring typical music and dancing in various parts of Sweden all summer long.

The forty-mile Hambo dance marathon through the country-side–one of the many exciting events in fun-filled Scandinavia.

The International Strynsfjell Giant Slalom Race in June is the oldest glacier skiing event in Norway. First held in 1942, it uses a 5,000-ft.-long trail with a drop of 1,000 ft., situated at Tystigen on Skreidulaup glacier. This is an arm of the great Jostedal glacier, the largest icefield in Europe, located in Norway's spectacular Fjord Country.

If you end up the winner at the International Sea Fishing Festival in Harstad, Norway, held in July, you'll be named Knight of the Illustrious Order of Neptune, while the August International Sea Fishing Festival at Stavanger promises no charge if you fail to make a catch.

Deep sea fishing provides lots of action in Iceland, as well, and a number of sea angling tours are available throughout the summer. One six day trip out of Reykjavik takes you to a fishing lodge in the scenic village of Grindavik on the southwest coast of Iceland, near some of the best inshore fishing grounds in the country. Catfish, halibut, cod and haddock are plentiful in this area and championship catches are not uncommon. Accommodations, meals, boat tours and fishing permit are all included for $209 per person.

Finland's festivals have a cultural bent. Each year the

Culture In Oslo

The art treasures of Oslo, which range from 3,000-year-old Stone Age carvings uncovered in archeological diggings on the city's Ekeberg hill to contemporary frescos decorating the newest public buildings, make Norway's capital the undisputed cultural centre of Scandinavia.

To cover all of Oslo's museums, galleries and cultural parks would take far longer than the three or four days most tourists allow for a visit. But, even with limited time, it's impossible to leave without absorbing some of the city's artistic attractions. One of the best times to enjoy them leisurely is on summer weekends, when city dwellers head for the outlying countryside and hotel space in Oslo is easy to book.

The choice of collections is wide and most museums are open daily. Among the most outstanding exhibits are those found in the Viking Ship Museum which contains authentic longships, tapestries and furnishings, presenting a vivid picture of Norwegian life over a thousand years ago; the Edvard Munch Museum which includes the finest European collection of this Scandinavian impressionist; the Sonja Henie-Niels Onstad Art Centre housing a collection of more than

sculpture by Gustav Vigeland

200 works by well-known 20th century painters; and the National Gallery, which emphasizes trend-setting Norwegian painting and sculpture and a fine collection of international modern art. A stroll through the 75 acres of Frogner Park reveals the genius of sculptor **Gustav Vigeland**, highlighted by his 57 foot-high monolith of 121 human figures chiseled out of one solid granite block.

Other choices include the Norwegian Design Centre, the famous Kon Tiki Museum, the world's first Ski Museum and the Norwegian Resistance Movement Museum which exhibits mementos from the underground activities during the Nazi occupation of 1940-45.

A city of culture, Oslo satisfies every artistic taste.

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(Continued from Page 3)

Torske Klubben

in civic, provincial and federal campaigns. In 1965, when **Peter Lougheed** became the Alberta Progressive Conservative leader, **Horst** was named his ethnic advisor. He served as campaign manager for **Bill Skoreyko**, M.P. for Edmonton East, in the past two federal elections. In the Aug. 30 election, the first in which he participated as a candidate, he had as his campaign manager, Mrs. **Helen Skoreyko**, wife of Edmonton East's Member of Parliament, and a work force of over 300 volunteers. About his election, **Horst** said, "I will work for my constituency in party caucus and in the legislature, and I hope, as Mr. **Lougheed** did on election night, that party differences will be put aside so that we all may work to make Alberta the greatest province in Canada."

Alberta's new Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation is married to the former **Arleen Farnham** of Rimbey. The couple, which has lived in southeast Edmonton for the past ten years, has two boys and a girl.

In his address to Torske Klubben, the Hon. Mr. **Schmid** talked about his favorite subject—Culture. He named it "Our Unity As Albertans".

Today, I would like to speak to you about a word that still scares some people—though **why** is a mystery.

The word is **"culture"**.

And **culture** should be the most meaningful word in our lives. For it is many things . . . language . . . music . . . art . . . dancing . . . drama.

Most of all, it is "life and legacy"—what we are, as shaped by the past and the people from whence we came.

There are Norwegians here today, I would think, who may never have seen the seas on which their Viking fathers sailed . . . who may never have climbed the hard hills of their Norwegian ancestral homeland. But do not think that the blood of those who sailed such seas and tamed such wild Norwegian mountains has not made you a strong, independent—and better—part of the people the world knows as **Albertans**.

Not a people **apart**, mind you—for, though every people has a characteristic culture of its own, ultimately, many cultures—evolving together—produce a distinct and new culture—such as that we are building together in Alberta today.

Here, in this province, we may well feel rich, examining as we are the more than 50 ethno-cultures from which we came . . . to preserve the best from each . . . to build an enriched, distinct, Canadian culture of our own.

It is not simply a "nice" gesture on our part. In an age when human needs are crying desperately for priority position, we must do it—for the good of our souls, for our self-fulfillment as individuals, for a legacy to the Alberta we must leave behind, to our children's and and our grandchildren's keeping.

Let us examine the philosophy behind this—to see if we can find a keystone for Alberta's cultural tomorrow.

Life is all a piece—and culture is simply an exterior expression of our lives, individually and collectively.

What one **has been** is related to what one **becomes**. To cast off completely the cultural traditions of the past is a tragic—a dangerous—thing. To bind ourselves completely to the past is equally hazardous—the sure road to disunity and distrust.

The man who tries to disassociate himself from his past is an unknown to himself . . . and in many ways, he rebels against the unknown. He lacks a sense of belonging—a sense of continuity with his own people. Yet he who will not recognize that culture is also a changing, living thing is likewise at war with himself and with society. He is chained to the past and forever at odds with the present, a source of great unhappiness to himself, a stumbling block to his children and his neighbors.

The keystone to Alberta's cultural future is found in one wonderful word: "freedom". Even that is sometimes only dimly understood.

Here, in Alberta, we can reasonably state that we do have many of the freedoms for which our fathers came—freedom from fear . . . freedom from want, for example.

But freedom is more than a negative thing. Freedom in our part of the world is no longer equated with escape from hunger, poverty, outright oppression. These—thank God—we have left behind.

Here, now, we are concerned with freedom for something—in our case, a full cultural life for the self-fulfillment of the person and the enrichment of our whole society. **Freedom**—let us repeat it—**is the keystone to Alberta's cultural life policy**.

If I may, Mr. Chairman, I should like to elaborate on **that** for just a few moments.

We know that the laws of science and mathematics are real. We are quite willing to concede—to take random examples—that the Arabs gave us our present system of numbers (better, we feel, than Roman numerals). Greece gave us our concept of democracy. The U.S introduced the world to the tremendous power of technology and mass production.

Let us stop right there. **How many countries**, over how many centuries, contributed to the great American technological advance? They are limitless. The Egyptians, long gone, who invented the wheel and axle . . . the Renaissance scholars who spread learning . . . the Germans who propagated printing and, hence, the swift accumulation and distribution of knowledge . . . the English with their inventions of the Industrial Revolution . . . I could spend the entire evening simply illustrating the contribution of all peoples to the scientific and technological riches that world society takes for granted today.

But it is only **now**—perhaps because we have finally solved the age-old problem of production—that it has dawned on us that, as scientific laws are real, so **social laws** are equally real—and society, down to its smallest unit, is starving for their recognition and application in the lives of all.

Our cultural heritage is real. As indicated earlier, it is the sum and substance of our social expression—reaching into the distant past . . . influencing our lives today . . . pre-shaping the lives of your children of tomorrow.

It is not just a game with words—not just a new game at which politicians must play.

Considering the state of the world today—where lack of meaning in life leads even teenagers, young and vibrant with the fibre of living, to jump off the High Level Bridge—I am sure each of you will believe that knowledge of our social laws—and recognition of the central role that culture plays in them—is the most important business in which we can be engaged today.

We can begin by asking ourselves from whence we came. As I have suggested, maybe you have done this already—in some measure—around your own fireside.

Your own particular Viking ancestors were an adventurous, courageous and hardy breed, always looking for new lands to explore—much more than to conquer. (Did you know they have found Viking tools even in Minnesota?!) So, basically, it has never been any problem for the Norwegian people to come to a land such as this and quickly call it "home".

For other groups—whose ancestors for centuries never left their homeland—the ties of home are stronger. To them, we say: **Do not be afraid to look back.**

Were your forefathers "the people of the plains"? Did they come from a white-washed cottage in Bessarabia? Or from a little village on the Rhine? Were they Irishmen who sang in the turf-bogs to keep alive and fresh their own illustrious history? Were they the French who sailed on wooden ships—so low they could touch the water's foam—to find freedom in a new land?

These are the things we say to **all** our peoples, really—because, of course, if we cannot look back on our heritage with pride, we cannot find much meaning in our **present** or our **future**. If you are ashamed of what your fathers were, you may well be afraid of what your children will become.

The next thing to do is ask yourself **why** they came. **This** is what we sometimes forget.

What I say to you is that our fathers came here **not to find what they were leaving**—another Norway, another Ukraine, another Germany, another France—but to build a life—a common culture—richer and better . . . more truly expressed in freedom—than could ever have been theirs in any other land.

On that never-to-be-forgotten basis, in Alberta we build. And I say to you, ladies and gentlemen, we are building well. We are building something fine and good—a way of life that is the envy of the world . . . the greatest legacy we can give to our children in a world so terribly, terribly torn by hate and jealousy and the bitterness of man towards his fellowman.

Is that not worthwhile, good people?

Is that not a greater and finer challenge than ever your Viking fathers faced?

Is that not, in truth, the dream that brought you here?

How well your own people have helped build our Alberta, I need not say.

Who hasn't heard of these illustrious Canadians of Norwegian extraction . . .

The diplomat, **Chester Ronning**, sent by the Canadian Government a year or so ago as envoy to Vietnam?

Anne Heggteveight, the first olympic gold medal winner for Canada in championship skiing?

Henry Larson, the first arctic explorer in Canadian history to sail through the North-West Passage, from East to West and back again?

Our own **Walter H. Kaasa**, Director of Cultural Development, who has—in truth—brought the arts in Alberta to a leadership role for all Canada?

These people are mentioned as examples only—but their achievements . . . their contributions to this country . . . illustrate so well the truth I am telling you: that, though the individual finds meaning and self-fulfillment in his own particular inheritance of talent and skill, it is most rewarding when it is shared—offered to and accepted by—the rest of society.

In brief, you and I, ladies and gentlemen—unworthy though we may feel—are the builders of our cultural tomorrow here in Alberta.

Each one of us has a responsibility. Each must have respect for the rights of others. Each must see in his neighbor the dignity and worth he wants in this life for his own. Each must play his part—even as we in government will try to play our part: through programs and services wherever feasible, but especially in the world of the arts—the world all of us share in common, and which so wonderfully enrich us all.

For you—with your long tradition of gallantry and good labor—it is a clear and easy path to follow. But your real reward will be in **realization** of the truth that **here** we are blessed to be bound in a common culture with so many of the world's peoples—and because of it, we are building a way of life for all—ourselves today, and our children after us—that the world indeed must truly envy.

The next speaker at Torske Klubben will be **Betty Blommaert** on Tues., July 3. Ms. **Blommaert** is engaged in Research and Produce Community Television Programming in connection with the Alberta Government through the facilities of the Separate School Board.

She is currently preparing a television program about Scandinavian people in Edmonton which will be shown on Channel 10 in the fall.

New Language Tapes Make Learning Fun

A new concept in language tapes, making the cultural background and native music a part of the learning process, has been introduced by **Heritage Productions**, 1455 W. Lake St., Minneapolis, Minn. 55408.

The new series, entitled **"IT'S FUN TO SPEAK . . ."**, is being sold by mail order. It includes Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, Finnish, German and Polish languages to date.

The producer says the tapes are not intended as full scale language courses, but to provide an introduction to the language and the cultural heritage of the country from which it comes.

The light-hearted subject matter includes conversation about travel, the weather, relatives, food and favorite expressions, as well as folk songs, lullabies, love songs and Christmas carols.

Each set of five cassette tapes comes in its own vinyl library album cover and is accompanied by a printed read-along script in booklet form.

Scandinavian History and Culture Probed

Norse Inheritance In Modern Day Life

MR. SVEEN: Almost everyone of our discussions over several years has dealt with at least one of three topics. We have talked about (1) the development and expansion of the ancient northern cultures, (2) the decline of the Viking civilization and (3) the significance of the ancient Scandinavian cultures in present day. In the latter regard we have said that there were very important positive developments during the ancient periods which persist to the present day. It will probably be helpful to conclude the part three discussions with a summary of your views.

DR. NELSON: There would be little reason from my point of view for going into the literature, myths and activities of our forefathers if they did not carry into the present in some way.

MR. SVEEN: Even though we accept the connection as true, it is not necessary that we accept it as being very important. May we not reason that it all happened so far in the past and that the long route by which such things come into the present life assure that every last trace has been so hopelessly altered as to be unrecognizable today?

DR. NELSON: It requires effort of course to re-discover our ancient lineage in its modern dress. Years of compulsory schooling, free libraries, inexpensive newspapers and magazines, motion pictures, TV, cultural mixing, all with a very short time focus may lead us to the conviction that, like our cities and cars, people have shallow roots in time. This is not true. Mankind changes but not as rapidly as one frequently believes. For example, I repeated a study done over 70 years ago with public school children and got essentially the same results. The study dealt with various happenings in a story to which children pay especially close attention. The same story was listened to in a different way by children from other cultural groups such as Native Indian and Hutterites. We change less than we think from generation to generation, if we put aside superficial-

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ities of dress, toilet, housing, transportation, etc. Old habits of thought and action die hard.

MR. SVEEN: It can be a surprise to find that the Vikings played chess, knew the shape of the earth and of the existence of the equator, antarctic and south temperate zone, named the days of our week, provided the code upon which English law is based, etc.

DR. NELSON: True. We gradually have to admit that the old Northmen had an idea of how the world began and would end, how man was created and what happens to him after death and a very firm ethical and moral sense plus a great appreciation for beauty. After thirteen hundred years of Christianity, modern Scandinavians in-so-far as they are religious, have become unquestioning believers in the old testament idea of one God. Still when we look at Christianity, and especially Roman Catholic Christianity, we find more than a trace of pluralism, for their is God the Father, God the Son, the Holy Ghost, the Divine Mother and many miracle working saints. The old pluralistic nations are not so far out of date as one might at first hand think.

But we are straying again! We should be talking about things having a modern counterpart which are much more peculiarly Scandinavian.

MR. SVEEN: "Discovery" was the topic most recently dealt with. Unusually large contributions have been made in science and modern technology by Scandinavians. **Immigration to and settlement of** primitive areas, and voyages into unknown regions are cultural characteristics from the earliest times. Discovery of new things and creation of ideas have absorbed the Northwest Europeans to a remarkable extent throughout the recorded history of the peoples.

DR. NELSON: That is well put. Let's also remember that this reputation has been won with a very small population and slim natural resources. The whole of the Scandinavian names are encountered thousands of times more frequently than would expect on the basis of sheer numbers of people living there.

Travel and technological expertise are universally recognized hallmarks of Scandinavians. On an everyday living level we find that these countries which are among the poorest in natural resources and arable land in the world, have a standard of living which is very high.

By necessity, Scandinavians have always looked for resources beyond their borders whether by war, immigration or trade. Even today, Norway has the fourth largest merchant fleet in the world under her flag, Norway and Sweden remain among the largest ship building countries of the world and Sweden has one of the largest navies and air forces. Significant, the Swedes fly planes of their own design and manufacture and market these to other countries in competition with "super powers" hundreds of times larger. In thousands of other ways—safety matches, vacuum cleaners, automobiles, guns, paper products, hydro, farm implements, tape recorders, chemicals, medical techniques—they are world leaders in technological expertise.

Science is as much their field. The highest scientific awards are the Nobel Prizes. These are Scandinavian in inception and awarded by the governments of Sweden and Norway. Scientific periodicals from Scandinavia are very numerous—I think if we would reckon on a per capita basis, we would find that the libraries over the world have a larger representation of Scandinavian thought than any other. The Scandinavians recognize this and publish their leading journals in English only. In accord with this, Scandinavian names occur with very high frequency in the scientific literature again despite the small numbers of peoples as compared with Germany, France, Britain, Italy, U.S.A., the Soviet and Japan to name only the other world leaders in Science.

I believe, however, that the most important thing to emphasize is that there is a visible continuity between Scandinavian habits of thought and expression in ancient days and science and technological practices of today. I believe that it is difficult to find such compelling evidence for other cultures in several respects.

MR. SVEEN: You mean in writing style, perspective and the emphasis upon law?

DR. NELSON: Yes. Let's cover these one by one. First, we find short sentences and economy of expression. No more is said in science, technological or saga writing than is necessary for completeness. The several types of writing agree that special terminologies are useful for special purposes. More importantly, there is the same emphasis upon sources of evidence when judging the credibility of an account. In experimental science we always realize the conditions employed to give the particular result. If a different procedure were used, the facts would be changed. In parallel, a saga writer starts by saying, "We cannot say that these things happened but only that persons who were respected as wise and prudent men considered them to be true accounts." Then, as the scientist, he gives a description of his method of assessing old sources of information. I know of no other ancient people who were so conscious of the manner in which written records reflect procedure. They appear to have been well aware of the relativity of result to method.

Closely associated with this sensitivity to procedures and the types of facts collected, they were very demanding of accurate observation and reporting. Scientists are likewise aware that the method used is no better than the care in collecting data. Observations by a skillful and fully attentive person are to be relied on. Part of the success of the long Viking expeditions must be given to a feeling of certainty supported and developed by close and accurate attention to nature.

Then there is their impersonality. Science articles are written in the "third person". It is usually "he did this . . ." and "it was found . . .". The noun "I" is frowned upon because everything reported should ideally be repeatable by any competent observer. Subjective evaluation weakens arguments. The saga writer may have originally taught this skill in presenting facts. The saga writer does not identify himself but lets one judge whether the evidence stands on its own merit. The last 100 years showed a similar habit in conversations. My grandfather avoided the use of "I" except with the family, preferring more objective forms equivalent to "we" or "he".

MR. SVEEN: It seems that the habit of taking an impersonal perspective on events would be an asset in problem social situations too.

DR. NELSON: There have been bloody confrontations in Scandinavia as elsewhere but they are comparatively rare. The type of worker-manager relations they engage in is less bargaining than impartial planning of production goals and profit distribution by impartial committees made up of representatives from different levels of the productive unit. The fact that the U.N. has had two secretary generals from Scandinavia (**Lie**—Norway, **Hammarskjold**—Sweden) and that Count **Bernadotte** (Sweden) was selected as a special representative shows that the world at large recognizes and desires this ancient trait.

Still, one should not suggest that the ancient Scandinavians are devoid of personal desires. Their code of behavior was designed to reward heroes more heavily than others. The heroism was established by concrete deeds accomplished. But there is no loose talk about "dragons" or "ladies in distress" or "miracles", just hard objective action. As I mentioned in an earlier discussion, the similarity between saga style of writing and the modern "hard-boiled" novel has been noted and commented upon.

MR. SVEEN: You also said that their understanding of the basic nature of the world is remarkably similar to that represented by science.

DR. NELSON: This indeed is the case. The ancient Scandinavians were clear that laws governed events. Unlike any other people, their gods were **products of** and **subjected to** law themselves and hence ultimately as mortal as any man. The Christian says he cannot imagine laws without a law giver. The Vikings claimed that their gods arose from necessity of universal law—what they called fate. Science has developed quite rapidly using the idea of law as the universal force. Scientists tend to regard religion and the character ascribed to God as cultural phenomenon largely explainable from a scientific basis. Morals and ethics which arise from the religion are thereby treated as secondary religious (cultural) products or biologically based. The ancient Norse are the first who expressed such outlandish ideas!

Without going in this direction at any length, let us also note that the Swedish practice of making clergy state employees and this clergy in turn being restricted in the type of social criticism it can engage in being state employees, is consistent with the old pagan habit of putting religious practices in the hands of ruling families. It is also consistent with the Ombudsman concept that the government (King) must live under the law too. The idea developed in South Europe in medieval times that the King was "God's representative" on earth and could therefore do no wrong. Civil wars and revolutions then challenged the "rights" of King over subjects. The Swedes were the first to broadly re-define the relation of King to people as one of lawful and not supernatural relationship. This occurred in the year 1805.

MR. SVEEN: Consistent with the modern habit of thought, learning was of great importance.

DR. NELSON: It has been estimated that 492 newborn calves had to give up their hides to provide the vellum for the first copy of "Landnamabok". One must realize what this meant economically to an extremely small and poor country such as Iceland. They must have valued learning very highly since the Landnamabok was copied several times and almost all the sagas were written in Iceland on similar material. Also, Iceland, which was for practical purposes completely illiterate in the tenth century, was highly literate in the medieval period when even Kings and other countries thought the skill of reading to be beneath them.

A high evaluation of writing is ascribed to **Odin** who gave up one eye and hung for nine days on the gallows as the price of learning the meaning of the runes, the early alphabet made up of 26 characters.

MR. SVEEN: I believe that the book called **"The Icelandic Saga"** makes other arguments showing the affinity of Scandinavian science. Do you think that the Scandinavian culture can be said to have caused modern science?

DR. NELSON: No. We can never go so far as to say that, any more than we can say that the Greeks caused modern science because they developed logic and mathematical thought forms. The trouble with history is that it occurs only once! To find causes we like to run an experiment in which we find out what the effect is with the condition present and with the same condition absent. If, when we drop the condition, we do not get the effect, and if we get the effect only when that condition is present, we say that the condition is the "necessary and sufficient" explanation of the effect—the cause of the phenomenon. We cannot, of course, know what the world would have been like without Scandinavia or if Scandinavians were the only people present on earth. We can say, however, that there is as good a parallel between the Norse habits of thought and action on the one hand and modern science on the other as between science and any other cultural event of similar age.

Let us all continue to develop a deeper appreciation of our ancient cultural heritage. As our ancestors would have said, "It is most fitting for us to do so considering the present time in which we live."

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